

MAIL SUPPLEMENT

The Hongkong Telegraph.

No. 2491.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 1890.

SIX DOLLARS
PER QUARTER.

MARRIAGE.

On the 1st instant, at Kowloon, Amoy, by the Rev. W. Jennings, Colonial Chaplain of Hongkong, JOHN RICHARDSON, son of the Rev. J. T. Harding, Vicar of Rockfield, Monmouthshire, to ELIZABETH MARGARET, daughter of Captain Saunders, of Foochow.

DEATH.

At his residence, Shanghai, on the 11th March, 1890, THOMAS WALLACE, Senr., aged 57 years.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19 1890

A CRYING EVIL

For some years past we have from time to time directed the attention of the Hongkong Government to the pernicious gambling which is permitted to go on unchecked in the Chinese villages of Sam-sui-po and Kowloon, which are situated on the borders of British territory. It is almost needless to say that the fear of raising an international question with its attendant difficulties has hitherto prevented the Executive Council of this colony from taking any active steps to put a stop to a very fruitful source of serious crime in our midst. With a few rare exceptions Hongkong Government officials are quite contented to draw their liberal salaries and allowances for supervising in a more or less perfunctory fashion the routine work of their respective offices, without troubling themselves as to the real interests of the public, from whom they receive their generally easily-earned wages. And we do not hesitate to assert that our public interests have been most prejudicially affected by the existence of the low-class gambling hells in the places above named being ignored, nay, almost recognised, by the Hongkong Government. It used to be a common custom, and we have no doubt that it is the same at the present time, for crowds of a certain section of the community, including women and even children, to go over in steam-launches to Sam-sui-po and pass their Sunday afternoons in filthy Chinese dens gambling at *po-chi* and *fan-tan*, teaching a new generation the very worst forms of vice. And it is notorious—too notorious, alas!—that the wretched aggregation of Chinese hovels known as Kowloon city is the favorite rendezvous of a considerable number of the British and foreign community, persons occupying prominent positions in the colony. The laws of China expressly prohibit gambling of every description, and so severe are the penalties against keepers of *fan-tan* and *po-chi* rookeries that even in the huge city of Canton, where official bribery is the most prominent feature in mandarinic government, these popular games have to be played strictly under the rose, and as a matter of fact, the recognised centre and only legalised home of *fan-tan* in South China is in the Holy City of Macao, licensed under the seal of His Most Christian Majesty, the King of Portugal and Algarves. At Sam-sui-po and Kowloon the gambling is carried on without interference from the authorities, simply because the petty mandarins in charge of these places are bribed by the keepers of the gaming houses to ignore what daily goes on to a far greater extent than is generally believed. Steam-launches run frequently from here to Kowloon and Sam-sui-po, notably during the day but also late at night, and a considerable portion of the passengers are bound on the same mission—"to buck the tiger," as *fan-tan* has been suggestively named. The Hongkong police do not hesitate to say that a large proportion of the Chinese visitors are shroffs, "office boys," and domestic servants in European employ in this colony. Is it any wonder, therefore, that petty pilfering is rather the rule than the exception in almost every office and every house in Hongkong? The European worshippers at the shrine of St. Fan-tan are of many nations and of various positions in social life, and it is indeed a matter of great surprise that persons of position, education, and refinement can so lower themselves as to become regular habitués of such unclean dens of infamy and vice, the associates of the evil-smelling coolies, the patrons of the least interesting and most degrading form of gambling, known on the face of the globe.

We do not advocate making people moral by Act of Parliament or local Ordinance, but rather the contrary, as in our opinion, the Gambling Acts are a blot on the English statute book, and rather tend to encourage than to suppress the alleged vicious practices they are supposed to put down. But so long as these enactments form a portion of our local code, their effect ought not to be practically a dead letter. It is, of course, notorious that gambling of almost every description prevails extensively in all circles throughout the colony, and probably the worst form of all, at least so far as the public interests are concerned, is the wholesale wagering in "differences" on share transactions, so many cases of which have so frequently late occupied the time and attention of the Supreme Court, and which, notwithstanding a local judicial opinion to the contrary, are clearly not legal contracts, but mere gaming wagers and therefore void under the statute, as laid down by Chief Justice, *Jayvis v. Greenwood v. Bland*, a ruling that was upheld by the Full Court. However, we are at present dealing particularly with the gaming at Sam-sui-po and Kowloon, the existence of which is a dangerous nuisance that loudly calls for suppression,

and on another occasion we can return to the share-gambling scandals which for months past have disgraced the colony. We would suggest to His Excellency the Administrator that he should order an inquiry to be made into the various matters above alluded to, and if he finds that our statements are substantially accurate, diplomatic measures ought to be adopted to put down a growing evil. As already stated, *po-chi* and *fan-tan* are serious offences under Chinese law, and they are illicitly carried on through the protection of bribed officials. A courteously worded despatch to the Viceroy of Canton would very probably effect the desired end, and this simple expedient might advantageously be tried before resorting to diplomatic measures with the high authorities at Peking.

TRUE PHILANTHROPY—HUMBOLDT.

In another column we publish an appeal to the community from the Finance Committee of the Alice Memorial Hospital, to which we would direct special attention. The appeal speaks for itself, and we feel sure that it will not speak in vain. A vast deal of invaluable work has been done in aid of the struggling and suffering poor by this useful institution, and in desiring to extend the scope of its purely philanthropic operations the Committee strike a chord that should find a responsive echo in the bosom of everyone who can afford even so little to further such a deserving object. The question has suggested itself to us whether it would not be better to devote the \$12,000 (and the proposed extra vote) of public money set aside for the insane (tomorrow) planned as a reception to the Duke of CONNAUGHT, to benefit suffering humanity, as proposed by the earnest workers of the Alice Memorial Hospital? Undoubtedly it would, but then the abject flunkeyism for which Hongkong is so justly famed would have no opportunity of fully extending itself, and the official grovellers and their satellites would be deprived of the congenial pleasure of crawling in the mud before the colourless and uninteresting individual who, by mere accident of birth for which he was in no way responsible, is the son of Queen VICTORIA and ALBERT the Good.

At the meeting of the Legislative Council on Wednesday the 12th inst. the Administrator deemed it advisable to state that the sum of \$12,000 voted to cover the expenses of the reception of the Duke of CONNAUGHT would not be sufficient, and that a further vote of from two to three thousand dollars would be necessary. His Excellency made this statement on the authority of some members of the officially-appointed bogus Reception Committee—a body the community has in the most conclusive manner declined to recognise—and then proceeded, with the best intentions we are perfectly assured, to make assertions, for which he certainly had no sufficient authority, as to the feelings of the colony. Mr. FLEMING said he could assure the Council that the colony would not wish, for the sake of a few hundred dollars, that any want of loyalty should be shown to one of her Majesty's sons; but it so happens, we would remind His Excellency, that it is not a question of a few hundreds, but of about fifteen thousand dollars, which Hongkong in its present generally impoverished state, trade almost at a standstill, misery, want and destitution rampant on every side, and with public works of crying necessity lying fallow for lack of funds, cannot afford to waste in purposeless mummery, which are an insult to the intelligence of even the Duke of CONNAUGHT. And where does the want of loyalty come in, we should like to know? Our illustrious visitor—illustrious only because he was born a prince—will favor us with his distinguished society for a few hours, and can it reasonably be contended that a barbarous display of so-called decorations and making day and night hideous with salute firing and fire-crackers are proofs of loyalty? So far as the Duke of CONNAUGHT is concerned, and we say it with all respect, there is no such feeling as loyalty existing in this colony. If the Administrator had used the term "sentiment," he would have been much nearer the mark. We yield to none in loyalty to the recognised Constitution of our country so long as it is upheld by the votes of the British people, and fully recognise the respect, due to the eminent titular position occupied by the Queen, whose gracious attributes the world acknowledges; but when the question of loyalty is introduced with respect to a person, however high-born, who is an absolute nonentity in the government of the Empire, and who rests his only claim to distinction on the fact that he happened to first see the light in a palace instead of in a cottage, we indignantly protest against such a wanton misuse of terms. And His Excellency, and the Council, and the paterfamilias Reception Committee notwithstanding, we feel quite sure that both the Duke and Duchess of CONNAUGHT would infinitely prefer that the proposed "loyal demonstrations," and the abject toadyism which is an absolutely necessary concomitant of such a degrading exhibition, were left out of the programme. Had the matter in the first instance been impartially left to the Duke's decision, there can be little doubt that both he and his wife would have preferred to arrive in our midst in peace and quietness; and Hongkong could have shown its respect for the Queen's son without wasting thousands of dollars, squeezed from a hard-up and disgracefully over-taxed community, but truckling Government officials and two or three aspiring Legislative Councillors thought otherwise—it is so cheap and so patriotic to make a display

and obtain temporary notoriety at other peoples' expense. And thus while public money is uselessly wasted in thousands in childish absurdities, the Committee of the Alice Memorial Hospital are compelled to appeal to the charity of the community for funds to carry on the noble work of healing the sick and relieving the sufferings of the destitute.

SUPREME COURT.

IN CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

(Before Mr. Fielding Clarke, Acting Chief Justice.)

March 18th, 1890.

The March Sessions were only two removes from being a "white glove" function, as will be seen below. The cases were: *Messrs. J. D. Logan, H. L. Lewis, W. Powell, C. M. Crony, F. S. Collins, W. Walker, and C. G. Hermann.*

THE ROW ON THE "FUSHIKI MARU."
Kilmachi, a Japanese sailor, pleaded not guilty to an indictment charging him—first with unlawfully wounding, and secondly with causing grievous bodily hurt to a Chinese coolie, on the 20th January. The Attorney-General prosecuted. The Japanese crew had a fight with a lot of cargo coolies, in which the prisoner stabbed one of his opponents. He was found guilty on the second count, and sentenced to six months imprisonment.

ALLEGED MANSLAUGHTER.
Daniel de Jesus, a young Macanese, was charged with causing the death of a Chinaman. The Attorney-General prosecuted, and Mr. Pollock defended. The allegation was that the prisoner, on being asked by the deceased—old tailor—to pay his bill, pushed him down stairs, and caused injuries from which he died. His lordship directed the jury to acquit the prisoner. The Sessions then closed.

THE HONGKONG AND CHINA BAKERY COMPANY, LIMITED.

The annual meeting of the shareholders in this Company took place on the 17th inst. at the offices, Queen's Road. Mr. H. Crawford, took the chair, the following being present:—Messrs. E. George, A. Death, A. H. Skelton, D. McCulloch, H. S. Denison, E. S. Wheeler, W. Parlane, and J. McCulloch.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, you have doubtless read the advertisement calling this meeting, and I take it that nothing being said to the contrary, the statement of accounts as read will be accepted. I may state that the Company will pay a dividend of 8 per cent., and further we expect to do even better than this. In conclusion, I would request the re-election of the Consulting Committee.

Their election was proposed by Mr. George, seconded by Mr. W. Parlane, and agreed to. Upon the proposal of Mr. Parlane, seconded by Mr. McCulloch, Mr. E. S. Wheeler was unanimously elected auditor.

The Chairman then informed the meeting that dividend warrants would be made out as soon as possible, and the proceedings terminated.

THE ROYAL VISIT.

In view of the approaching visit of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, and the fact that it is the proper thing to fire untrifling party in the form of meretricious welcome, we beg to suggest that Hongkong rise in arms, and ever since the following reliable composition. It is guaranteed to produce an effect unequalled during the princely progress.

ORATION.
Arthur of Connaught, like wise Mrs. C.,
Seeing as how you've called here, on your way home via Frisco, let us all how low to ye,
And give assurance of our loyalty.

By all this fuss,
Your valour (here we all turn to Connaught)
Is so approved it needs no blazon here;
At Tel-el-kebir's battle you did shun naught,
Knowing how well-placed you were—the rear
Out of the "muss."

We don't remember any other frays
Where you, oh, lepetic son of Mars
Did aught distinguished—oh, you won your bays
In courtier labours—opening boxers.

And posing thus:
Thus, as we see your royally now stands,
(Though somewhat bored and blasé) whilst we
rant.

Our simulated joy, and rub our hands,
And say, "we can't believe our eyes, we can't."
YOU visit us!!!
But, look, your Highness—see these decorations:
Aren't they lovely? And they cost so and
We didn't pay, his tux—we make orations,
Not find the money we so freely spend.

The public does,
Our chief idea in thus toadying to you
Is part excuse—we do so love a lord,
And dukes we'd do good on 'em, a few
May get a knighthood—if you speak the word.

To Britain's boys,
Don't stay too long, after Arthur, common folk
Soon 'd drop to royal foolery, and you
Might elen form subject for some traitorous joke.
And with you'd travelled round the world
Inconnu.

Like Belly-Joss,
Well, you might smile, it's nearly all you're paid
for.
There—oh, if you turn crusty, pray you hear.
We didn't seek, this honor, (that is, Hongkong
as a colony didn't)
And if you hadn't come, we should not care.

A single cuss.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THAT venerable vessel-of-war, the U.S.S. *Albatross*, arrived from Swatow on the 16th inst.

This Singapore papers say that the *Memmut* broke her propeller shaft when off Timor, keeping, where she was picked up by the *Guthrie*.

The Old Man Fund—Inspector Lee, \$2; Mr. Bevan, Public Works Department, \$1; Cyp. Hoyle, \$5 (the first contribution sent). Total up to date—\$66.00.

The new Attorney-General—Mr. W. M. Goodman made his debut at the Sessions yesterday morning. He is a long way after the elevated O'Malley as a speech-maker, at any rate.

THE *Penang Gazette* learns that Mr. Swettenham, Resident of Perak, is going home on three months' leave of absence, and that Mr. Treacher, the Secretary to the Government, will act as Resident during Mr. Swettenham's absence.

We learn that Messrs. Butterfield and Swire have put a steamer on the Tientsin-Foochow run, in opposition to their late allies, the China Merchants and Jardine, Matheson & Co. The Foochow people, it is said, carefully boycotted the newcomers.

THE members of the Victoria Recreation Club intend giving an "Assault-at-Arms" shortly, probably in the second week in April. The contingent is in charge of Sergeant Instructor Tennant, under whose able tuition the latent muscular talent of Hongkong should have every show.

THE *Siam Mercantile Gazette* hears that H.R.H. Prince Dewan has received from Colonel Thynne, Vice-Chairman to the Siam Gold Field Co., a report on the Mines in which the said gentleman expresses himself highly satisfied with the prospect of the mines. In his opinion a dividend, and a good one, will be declared before the end of the year.

We acknowledge with pleasure the receipt of \$13.50 from the officers of the I. M. Customs stationed at Malowchow, \$21.10 from the members of the Royal Artillery Sergeants' Mess and their friends, and \$13 subscribed at the establishment of Messrs. Geo. Fenwick & Co., sent with very kind letters for the use of the poor old wanderer Mann, on his arrival in England.

THE Korean correspondent of the *Japan Herald* writes that Harvey, the last of the miners, has returned to America by the *Higo Maru*, and Yokohama, and thus ends the great gold mining bubble in Korea. The inventor of the scheme has, however, more than one string to his bow, and he is expected back from Nagasaki immediately to open a dispensary or something of the kind, at Chemulpo. It will be a post of observation from which he can watch, and at the favourable moment participate in, the game of palace intrigue.

THE Tai-yu-shan mines are having a new lease of life. Chi Yun, the Shanghai capitalist who has joined Ho Amel in the management, brought down \$100,000 the other day to replenish the exhausted funds of the syndicate, and efforts were made to secure the services of Mr. Church, the Viceroy's mining engineer at Tientsin. He sent an assistant, Mr. Petersen, who has just overhauled the machinery at Tai-yu-shan, and has strong hopes of success. At present, pending the arrival of a European smelter, the native process is adhered to.

THE *Yapian Gazette* reports another disastrous fire. The scene was Asakusa, and the time of commencement was midnight of the 26th ult. Over 1,400 houses were destroyed. The conflagration originated in the premises of a firewood and charcoal dealer. At the time a rather stiff north-western wind was blowing, and this, coupled with the narrowness of the streets, aided the rapid spread of the flames. In all 1,424 houses were completely destroyed, 73 damaged, and 29 store-houses suffered before the fire was extinguished at 5.45. There was one fatality, and fifteen firemen received injuries.

THE Singapore thieves take the cake, and everything else. On the 8th inst., they stole \$50 from a room in the Police headquarters over where a Sikh was on guard. The *Free Press* says:—After carrying off \$50 from the Gaol, and \$50 from the Police headquarters, after picking pockets in the Supreme Court and taking the cashbox from the charge room, the next thing will be to bear off the mace from the Judge's bench, if not the judge himself. We see, too, that the residence of the Very Rev. Bishop Ver, at Bangkok, was robbed of some valuable Church jewellery, valued at a thousand ticals, the other day.

THE *Shanghai Mercury*, in recording the death of Mr. Thomas Wallace, senior, who died at his residence on the 11th inst., says:—He is well known in Hongkong and Yokohama as well as at this port, and very much respected by a large circle of friends. He arrived in Hongkong as early as 1855, and came to Shanghai in the first year 1862, and after remaining here a short time went to Japan. He left that country in 1866 for this port, where he has resided ever since. The funeral took place this afternoon (18th), the service being conducted by the Rev. H. C. Hodges. A large number of friends and residents attended.

A CANTON correspondent writes that the new Viceroy, Li Han-chang, is getting himself disliked to his new sphere on account of his evident anxiety to "make his mark." The Wei-sing lottery is formed by a syndicate who have ten months of their six years' lease still unexpired, but notwithstanding that His Excellency has half promised the monopoly to another syndicate, on the application of four *hufun*, or *ultrats*. They offer \$1,200,000, and \$500,000 in bribes for the privilege. The present Farmers, who are only now beginning to realize any profits, are badly excited about it, as the Acting Governor, whom they have petitioned, is too anxious to keep straight with His Excellency to further their cause much.

THE match for a \$5000 between Mr. W. H. Young, winner of the "Veterans' Race" at the recent Athletic Sports, and Mr. J. Ezekiel, to run 120 yards, the former conceding a yards' start, was decided on the Race-course this afternoon (17th inst.) in the presence of a large number of spectators. The scratch start was a decided favorite, but there was very little betting. Ezekiel was quicker off the mark than his opponent, and in the first fifty yards had almost made up his lead; but from this point Ezekiel, who ran very fast, fairly held his own until within twenty yards of the tape, when he was beaten by a yard and a half in 13.4 seconds. A capital performance considering the heavy state of the running-path.

THE *Chingai Dampo*, a Japanese paper, says:—We learn from those on board the *Kongo-kun*, which has just returned from Honolulu, that a good deal of quarrelling took place among the Chinese and Portuguese sailors and labourers there, and that these factions sometimes combine to whip our countrymen, when it comes to blows; and in consequence of this an organized attack by the Chinese and Portuguese was going to take place when the *Kongo-kun* put in an appearance. Our countrymen did not fail to spread abroad the *Kongo* was there more by design than accident, and great fear came upon everyone. At night the electric light was turned on and 40 armed men were the natives for they are barbarians, and had been seen the electric light before this they were the foreboding and peril the night in the jungle and in caves.

RECENT official investigations show that over a million pigs are slaughtered in Hongkong annually, or about three thousand a day.

THE nomination of Mr. Augustine Herad to be Minister Resident and Consul-General to Corea, was confirmed by the United States Senate on the 4th ult.

SMALL-POX has broken out in Rangoon by last advice, and the disease was rapidly increasing. The epidemic will interfere very much with the trade of the port.

THE *Strait Times* says that at 6.10 on the evening of the 6th instant, the steamers *Chow Pua* and *Amherst* collided in the Klang River, the former vessel losing one of her boats.

Mr. W. M. Goodman, the new Attorney-General, and the new Assistant Harbour Master, Commander Hastings, R.N., arrived by the American mail steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro* on the 15th inst.

HANCOCKFORTH, according to the *Sinhonome Shimbun*, the rations of the men in the Japanese Navy will consist wholly of foreign food. Up to the present the rations have consisted of half foreign and half Japanese food.

THE *Courier d'Haiphong* states that a telegram was received from Hanoi on the 7th inst. reporting that M. Guinmar, vice-resident at Quinhon, and M. Borgnard, acting chancellor, had been drowned at Vung-cu, through the upsetting of a boat. A doctor and the chief of customs were saved.

On the 14th inst. Messrs. Russell & Co. received a telegram from Sourabaya, informing them that the E. & A. S. S. Co.'s vessel *Memmut* had been brought in disabled, and had gone into dock, her cargo being brought on by the *Guthrie*. The *Memmut* left Port Darwin for here via Java, on the 15th ult., and should have arrived a week ago, but no news was heard of her until as above stated. She is supposed to have been broken down off Java, and to have been picked up by the *Guthrie*, which left Port Darwin three weeks after her.

ST. PATRICK'S Day was celebrated in good old style by the members of the Garrison Staff, who entertained some three hundred of their friends at a ball in the City Hall last evening (March 17th). The corridors and salons were very appropriately and artistically decorated, and a most enjoyable programme rendered by the band of the A. and S. Highlanders, dancing being kept up until long after conventional hours. The Highlanders purpose celebrating the anniversary of the chief event of their South African campaign on the 2nd and 4th of April by similar festivities.

On the afternoon of the 14th inst. the Administrator (the Hon. F. Fleming) presented a Humane Society's medal to P.C. McAuley for twentysix of undoubted bravery. One celled evening last November a sampan overturned opposite No. 2 Station, and the boat people were left struggling in the water. McAuley, hearing of the occurrence, jumped in, swam out to them, and saved at least three lives, at great personal risk. Last month, also, he saved a marine belonging to the *Orontes*, who had fallen off Murray Pier whilst under the influence of liquor, and drifted a considerable distance. The presentation was witnessed by all the men off duty. P.C. No. 8 is a brick of the first water.

SOME few weeks ago, it will be remembered, we had occasion to criticise a sentence which was imposed by Mr. Robinson on Police Constable McGregor for an alleged assault on two soldiers. The unfortunate man, although bearing a good character, was consigned to gaol for three months without the option of a fine. We are, however, pleased to note that H.E. the Administrator, in response to an appeal from McGregor's comrades has shown more justice—to say nothing of mercy—and has directed that half the sentence be remitted. Considering that even six weeks imprisonment may mean dismissal and disgrace to McGregor, we consider that an order for his immediate release would have been a much more fitting end to the business.

THE *Yapian Mail* says:—The Japan Mail Steamship Company's vessel *Yokohama Maru*, which left Hakodate on the morning of the 3rd instant for Yokohama, ran on the rocks off Shirai-saki, a promontory on the north-east coast of the main island. The ship is supposed to be in a dangerous position, but the extent of the damage is not known. The crew are all safe. As soon as the news reached Hakodate, the company's steamer *Korio Maru* was at once despatched to carry assistance. It was afterwards found that she was a total loss. Only her mast-heads are now visible above water. It is conjectured that the rocks which proved disastrous to her are the Rattler Rocks, so called because they were discovered in a very practical and forcible manner some twenty odd years ago by H.B.M.S. *Rattler*. Nothing is yet known as to the cause of the *Yokohama Maru*'s misfortune. The weather seems to have been clear and fine at the time.

NEAR Sinking in the Shenai Province there are, says a native contemporary, large tracts of country which have remained in an uncultivated and desert state for many years, owing on account of the absurd law that people had to give up the right of cultivation. But some time ago the Board of Punishment received permission from the Throne to deport criminals to these districts and see if their labour could not make these neglected lands as fertile and productive as other districts. The experiment succeeded admirably. Crops of rice, maize, and barley are now smiling where formerly nothing was to be seen but arid lifeless wastes. And best of all, the conduct of the convict colony was so exemplary, that the Emperor, at the suggestion of the Board of Punishment, has pardoned the criminals, and they will settle permanently in the lands they have thus tilled, and take wives from amongst the women of the province.

ALL SAIGON contemporary reports at length an engagement between native rebels and French troops at Nam-dinh, Tonquin. A detachment of 75 men were sent out to disperse the band of Doi-Vo, whose very name was terrible enough to make the million inhabitants in the district tremble. The troops, reinforced by 60 more, besieged a house in which the rebels were concealed. Not a sound betrayed the presence of the inmates, until a fire poured through the loopholes, killed and wounded several of the soldiers. A sanguinary combat, lasting at least three hours and a half, ensued, both sides displaying great courage; the frequent sallies being repeatedly repelled, and the house at length set on fire. When the defending fire ceased, and the place was carried, the corpse of Doi-Vo was placed upon the face of a chair. The entire band, 400 in number, had been killed. The troops killed 100, and had 50 many wounded. But the district, which Doi-Vo had devastated for nearly three years, is now tranquil.

A SKY Race Meeting, under the auspices of the Hongkong Polo Club, will be held on the Race-course (by kind permission of the Stewards of the Jockey Club) on Saturday the 12th April. A programme of seven events has already been arranged and five valuable cups have been presented for prizes. We shall give full particulars in an early issue.

THE Chinkiang correspondent of the *Shanghai Mercury* writes that large numbers of refugees, who have been living on the borders of the settlement, are still being sent off to Shantung by the local officials. Mr. H. Playfair, appointed British Consul (*pro tem*), for this port, arrived on the 9th inst. per steamer *Fukuh*, and Mr. L. C. Hopkins, who has had charge of British interests for the past twelve months, left for Kiangkiang this morning by steamer *Peking*, carrying the good wishes of the whole of the foreign community. It is understood that he will relieve Mr. Allen, British Consul at Kiangkiang, who leaves for Europe shortly.

ON Friday the 7th inst., at eleven o'clock, Victor Roque, with his brother Henri, M. J. B. Costa, and an Annamite boy, were liberated from captivity by Lu-ky, the Tongkinese brigand, on payment of the ransom of \$50,000, 100 pieces of silk, and twelve watches. The exchange was effected in the usual manner, among banditti, in the centre of a neutral space 200 paces wide. The ransom filled three chests. The late captives were in better condition than could have been expected. Their hair and beards were long, and their hands still maimed with thumb-screws, but they were not so emaciated as was anticipated, considering that for a month they had been unable to move their arms, and had had to be fed by their "boys," as it is, they were infants. They reported that the comrade, Wing-fat-chong (who is suspected of having instigated the capture) had been beheaded for writing a letter to the mandarin at Canton, in which he gave the names of those members of the band belonging to the Kwang-si province, and recommended that their families be arrested. By so doing he hoped to save the ransom of his party, and make something out of the freebooters. Lu-ky is described as only being about twenty-five years old, and very arrogant throughout. The lieutenant of the band, Nea, raised many difficulties before he would bring the captives over, and when at length he did they were overcome with emotion.

THUS does the Shanghai correspondent of the *Kobe Herald* "bust the crust" of an apostle of contagious disease.—One Mr. Dyer, hailing from India, has been here siring his notions on the question of social purity. There is reason to fear that he will visit Japan after this. He complacently hugs himself as the "best hated man in India," taking, we presume, the violence and extent of the ill-feeling he has caused as a measure of his success, and of the importance of his cause. It is difficult to imagine that any large number of people can be found to harbour such a feeling as hatred against a man who is the mere expression of one out of a thousand silly crazes possessing the English race. It may be a subject for regret, that, with so many questions of importance to humanity unsolved, so much energy should run to waste in butting against such a stone wall as the Social Evil. Think what a man with Mr. Dyer's energy might do if he put himself on the track of the festive Bacterium, and when he had it in its den, branded it in the flank with a man of chloroform and typhoid, so that unsuspecting people would know next time. Or, suppose he took up the question of the personal hygiene of the native races, and persuaded the Chinese that ring-worm and scabies are unnecessary and offensive appendages to the human skin, how thankful many a despairing mistress of native servants would be, to know that they are clean, and not to suspect unthinkable horrors under the flowing robes of her boy and amah? It is to be hoped that Japan will escape a visit from this gentleman. I am told that he betrays a familiarity with the details and minutiae of vice which would be a feather in the cap of a man about to enter into the service of a collier. It is impossible but that he must sometimes sow the seeds in young men's minds of thoughts which they should never know.

WHEELOCK & Co.'s Freight Market Report, dated Shanghai, 14th March, says:—During the interval that has elapsed since our last circular was issued on 28th ult., nothing of importance has occurred in our freight market beyond an advance in rates to London by the P. & O. Co. and the O. S. S. Co., viz: to 30s. and 27s. per ton respectively; the Tientsin steamers have returned and left again, but business North is reported dull and consequently cargo for the home markets continues scarce. Coasting.—The war of rates on the Northern and Yangtze lines still exists and there is little probability of an early cessation of hostilities now that the steamship *Kowching*, the greyhound of the Indo-China Company's fleet, has been withdrawn from her usual route to enter into competition with the steamers plying on the Ningpo line. In the Newchwang-Swatow trade no settlements have been made, although it is expected that the former port will be open to navigation in about ten days' time; for Newchwang to Amoy further charters have been effected at rates showing a decline on settlements last reported: On the Nagasaki-Shanghai route a drop of 35 cents is to be noted, brought about by the excess of tonnage as compared with the quantity of coal to be shipped. For London, via usual ports of call and Suez Canal.—With the exception of the Mail there are no steamers on the berth. The O. S. S. Co. steamer *Singapore* which left Hongkong on 12th instant is circulated for despatch on 23rd idem and she will be followed by the China S. M. S. Co.'s *Ningchow* about the end of the month. For New York, via usual ports of call and Suez Canal.—The *Marianthire* sailed hence via Hongkong on the 9th instant. Rate 40s. for tea and general cargo; the berth is now bare of tonnage and there are no prospects of another steamer being put on before the opening of the new season. The *Departures for London via Suez Canal*:—The *Guthrie* sails on 20th inst. per 18 days; the *Swatow* sails on 22nd and 23rd inst. respectively. Quotations are:—Newchwang to Swatow, 26 Mex. cents per picul; Nagasaki to Shanghai, \$1.00 per ton of Coal net, for both steamers and sailing vessels. Settlements during the fortnight.—*Anglo Indian*, British barque, 444 tons register, Newchwang to Foochow, 35 Mex. cents per picul, 16 day days; *Sea Swallow*, British barque, 332 tons register, Newchwang to Amoy, 24 Mex. cents per picul, 18 day days; *Walter Shuffield*, British barque, 393 tons register, Newchwang to Amoy, 26 Mex. cents per picul, 18 day days; *Hikio*, Japanese steamer, 467 tons register, Newchwang for orders to Amoy, 26 Mex. cents per picul, 7 day days; Newchwang to Kobe, 22 Mex. cents per picul, 15 day days; *Hikio*, British barque, 305 tons register, Newchwang to Amoy, 27 Mex. cents per picul, 15 day days, disengaged vessel in port; *Joseph H. Stummell*, British ship, 1,410 tons register.

It is reported, the *Ni C. Daily News* says, that the *Paohua* is to run on the Hankow-Chang line.

DANIEL DE JESUS, charged with having caused the death of a tailor, was this morning (14th inst.) committed for trial at the next Criminal Sessions.

ACCORDING to a Japanese paper, among the pirates who infest Tonquin are some half-dozen Japanese, one of whom has risen to the rank of a pirate captain.

HALF of the Chinese coolies at Tanjong Pagar Singapore are said by the *Free Press* to be down with influenza, and there is some difficulty in despatching vessels.

MR. REDING, Russian consul at Shanghai, leaves for home on the 15th inst. During his absence Mr. Carl Beck, consul-general for Sweden and Norway, will look after Russian interests.

THE *Peking Gazette* notifies that Wu Ta-ch'ang, the Director-General of the Yellow River, has been granted one month's leave of absence to enable him to visit his aged mother, who is lying very ill at Soochow.

A NEW magazine called the *Unitarian* has just made its appearance in Tokyo. According to it, it has been established by the American Unitarian Association in cooperation with some of the most earnest and patriotic minds of Japan.

COAL prospects in British North Borneo, we learn from a trustworthy source, are of the most satisfactory character. The concession which was obtained some time ago by a local Syndicate promises to be a great success, the prospecting so far having exceeded the most sanguine anticipations.

THINGS have been decidedly dull about town these last few days—so dull, in fact, that a young financial friend of ours, in despair of any improvement, and with a laudable desire for a new sensation, started out to discharge some of his numerous liabilities. Needless to say, his success was complete.

THE *N. C. Daily News* of the 9th inst. says:—"The *Tungchow* brought down 114 boxes of treasure valued at £10,000 from Tientsin. She made the passage from Taku Bar to Shanghai in 56 hours. The *Kowshing* did the same distance in 188 in 47 hours 30 minutes, and the *Chungking* the same year in 55 hours."

CAPTAIN Craigie, of H.M.S. *Hyacinth*, went ashore at Singapore the other week, unfortunately forgetting to take his keys with him. During his absence his Chinese steward discovered the keys, opened the safe, and walked off with \$500, \$100 being in \$10 notes and \$500 in \$5 notes. A warrant for the arrest of the thief was issued.

THE M.M. steamer *Djinnah* got her propeller entangled with the buoy moorings while coming to the Pirat Koh, the other week. She was not long in clearing herself. Three members of her crew, who were remarkably good divers, succeeded in freeing the propeller of its entanglement, and in less than an hour the vessel was alongside the Pier.

WE are informed by a gentleman from the Peak district that about a quarter to nine on the morning of the 12th inst. a storm of hail suddenly broke over the Tramway station, lasting about three minutes. The stones were phenomenally large, averaging about an inch across, by three-eighths thick. It was a sight, our informant assured us, that he would not have believed if he had not witnessed it.

OPPOSITION is certainly the life of trade. Our Shanghai morning contemporary of the 8th inst. says:—"It was stated at Hankow that the *Ngankin* was to bring down something like 20,000 packages from Hankow, the freight upon them being nil. We hear that the low rates of passage-money now current are so promoting trade, that what is lost by the low tariff is more than made up the numbers carried."

WE are informed that the general managers of the Lubak Planting Co., Ltd. have received "musters" of fermented tobacco from their estate which experts in Hongkong have very favorably reported on. These samples are to be forwarded by mail to London and Amsterdam, to be further tested and reported upon. The latest reports from the Company's estate are highly favorable and there is every prospect of the enterprise proving a profitable one to all concerned.

ACCORDING to the *Nippon*, another case of attempted assassination has taken place in Japan. It says:—"A telegram dated Tokyo, 10.5 p.m. of the 2nd inst., reports that an attempt was made on the previous night to assassinate Lieut.-Gen. Viscount Torio. The assassins were two in number, but the Viscount was fortunately unwounded, and captured them both. The telegram is short, and we could not find out the real circumstances of the case; whether the attempt was the result of a difference of opinion on political subjects, or whether it arose from private enmity." Viscount Torio is, at present, the head of the *Hokko Chiu-shi-ha*, one of the Conservative associations of the country, but it is one which has only existed for a couple of years, and it does not seem to possess very much influence in the country. Its leader can therefore scarcely count as one of the ruling factors in the body politic.

THE following letter from the captain of the *Brotherhood*, translated in the *Courier* and *Express*, is sufficiently curious to hear reproducing. It is written to the bearer of the ransom of \$50,000—M. Biffaud. The brigand says:—"To the ambassador of Ba-ki (Tonquin) vice-general of the third degree. From me, Lao (Lau-ky), chief of the advance-guard and outpost at Mo-i-ni:—Our army has received, on the 20th January, your letter sent by some agriculturalists, together with some provisions for the re-purchase of Mr. Roque and his men. We consented, begging them to fix the ransom at \$50,000 out of pieces of Canton carpet, 50 pieces of black silk, and twelve watches (ten of copper and two of silver), all to be ready for exchange on the 4th February. Our army and sentinels are all brothers, full of sympathy and unity. The gentlemen agreed to the terms, but asked for a day more, as the difficult and precipitous route might delay you, as well as us. We put all confidence in your envoys, the chiefs of the neighboring villages guaranteeing our safety. We shall first send our representatives to see that our requirements are ascertained if your 'friends' are the men you seek. Then the exchange. It is understood that the French soldiers will stay at least one hundred paces in the rear, ten only escorting the ransom, and to receive our guests. On both sides let us resolve to be as faithful and just as the Heaven that invisibly protects us, promising and swearing that we will act without reservation according to our agreement. You must guarantee that all the officers commanding military posts shall leave us unmolested for ten days, and that the inhabitants shall not be molested. The latter (cannot) say all. In a subsequent letter, Lau-ky says that Wing-shan, who was attempting to escape with his father, the story is discredited. As stated yesterday (17th inst.), the captives arrived at Hiphong on Saturday last."

THE Yokohama papers state that they learn that the Viscount Li is in consultation with other Chinese officials regarding the Loochow Islands, and that it is the intention of these officials to send a despatch to the Japanese Government, demanding the return of the Islands; and should the reply be unfavourable, they threaten trouble to Japan in the future.

THE China Merchants' Co.'s paddle-wheeler *Kiang-kwan* arrived in harbour on the 12th inst. from Shanghai, under orders to inaugurate the long-threatened opposition on the Canton river to the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co. and the China Navigation Co. We understand that no date has yet been fixed for the *Kiang-kwan* to commence running, but that the will doubtless be some delay in order that the vessel may pass under the requisite Government surveys. It is reported that Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., as representing the Indo-China S. N. Co., will take a prominent part in the new opposition.

THE Nagasaki *Rising Sun* has the following:—"The 'Hongkong Directory and Hong List for the Far East' for 1890, published at the Hongkong Telegraph Office, being the ninth publication of that work, came to hand by the last P. & O. mail. It is a complete directory of Japan, China, Corea, Vladivostok, Hongkong, Straits Settlements, Macao, Coochin China, Manila, etc., and also contains the foreign consular, ordinances, rules, and regulations in force in the East, sporting, and other matters. So far as the information referring to Nagasaki is concerned, it is as correct as the constant changes being made will permit, which is more than can be said of its contemporary the 'Chronicle and Directory.' The whole comprises a book of over 800 pages of useful information."

REFERRING to the present depressed state of the tea trade, the *Foohow Echo* says:—"We believe that if the foreign tea merchants will only take the trouble of urgently enquiring why the foreign tea hongs are generally unable to make enough of native employees are prospering year by year, we doubt not that the root of the depression will be found. Though a reduction of the present abominably heavy duty and letkin are absolutely necessary, it will be still of no good if both these duties are not entirely placed in the hands of foreign Customs. Our opinion is that unless the tea growers are free from the enormous squeezes in the country, and the enquiry into the prosperous state of native employees in foreign tea hongs be made, nothing will save the trade from total collapse."

TIGERS are reported as numerous in Jelebu. At Jeram Jonggi a gentleman came across the fresh tracks of one which he carefully measured with a foot rule, the dimensions being eleven inches by nine. This sound like romancing, but the fact can be proved. The natives seem to have a yarn in connection with this animal, which they believe to be the same that several years ago carried off a young child and restored her to her mother unharmed some 14 days afterwards. The child is known as the "Kramat" or prephetess, and was a few months back married to the Dato Pengulu. She is popularly supposed to possess certain supernatural powers. The tiger, which was of enormous size, is called the "Kramat harimau," and the natives make out that it is harmless.

AMONG all the generous subscribers to Jubilee statues of useless females, illuminations for unobservant "Jukes," etc., surely some may be found who will send up a dollar for a much more deserving object. At the Central Police Station is a destitute, white-haired old cripple belonging to somewhere around Lincolnshire, named William Mann. He hasn't a cent, is 78 years of age, has been out in the East fifty-seven years, and is being sent home. The poor old fellow is still smart and active, considering his age, and has a volume of stories that he could tell. He came out here in 1833 as master of a schooner. Among his many adventures, he was forced, by fifteen Spanish prisoners, who had escaped, to take them from Guam, in the Marianas, to the Pelew Group. About fourteen years ago he was one of a crew wrecked on an island in the Carolines. The natives stole part of the bit of cargo saved, and because the captain slapped the chief in the face for permitting it, most of his comrades were slaughtered before his eyes. He got a terrible slash across the cheek, a spear-wound in the head, and several fingers cut off—hence his helpless condition. A hundred dollars would be a small fortune to him, and he would be quite that amount well to be coming. The Inspector in charge will account for all donations.

It would doubtless interest the Irish leader, the *Yagan Mail* says, to know that the story of his arraignment by Captain O'Shea has been quoted by Japanese writers as a warning to their own countrymen. "We have no accurate information," writes a leading vernacular journal, "as to the details of the Parnell-O'Shea suit, but it seems to be of a nature not lending itself to discussion in polite society. Mr. Parnell has championed the cause of Irish autonomy, and secured the co-operation of Mr. Gladstone, but his policy in this matter is bitterly opposed by the great bulk of the countrymen. Thus he has had to contend with all sorts of difficulties. Last year his fair fame barely escaped smirching in the investigations of the Royal Commission, and now he is again in difficulties as regards the law. It is the fate of great men to encounter troubles, but troubles such as this that threatens the Irish leader are peculiarly regrettable. A few years ago we had the case of Sir Charles Dilke, and now we have that of Mr. Parnell. Without going into the merits of these cases, we are constrained to admit that the security of such scandalmongers is very fortunate for England's reputation."

On the other hand, it is a natural consequence that as political rivalry between parties becomes keener, the characters and private lives of their members should be exposed to closer scrutiny. Statesmen have to be prepared for this. They must expect not only that political actions will be exposed to criticism, but also that their private conduct will be pried into. The statesman must therefore walk perfectly straight and uprightly in every relation of life. Political dissensions have now been epitaphs applied to high officials by their attacked subjects, corrupt officers, thieves, sellers of the State, and so forth. Officials, on their side, conscious that there are no grounds for these extravagant denunciations, feel little concern about them. But, as a matter of fact, the private lives of Japanese officials are extremely loose; they even seem to think that laxity of morals is a trait of the political hero. In that domain they do not yet find themselves assailed. But their immunity will not be perpetual. As society advances to a higher plane of moral sensitiveness, and above all, as the strife of the general public agitators will not confine themselves to the discussion of political questions, every incident of a prominent opponent's life will be held up to applause or execration. Japanese politicians will therefore have to order their private conduct with greater circumspection, unless they are willing to encounter such experiences as have befallen Sir Charles Dilke and Mr. Parnell."

In connection with the new Masonic Order of the Secret Monitor, the *Singapore Free Press* learns that the Straits Settlements has been erected into a district, with R. W. Br. F. H. Guttleb as D. G. S. R. The Conclave at Penang has been allowed to take its motto "Primus in India."

THE Artillery Volunteers are being invited by the military authorities to co-operate in a big-gun display in honor of the Duke of Connaught. But they are "freeing on" to the idea. We understand that the Fleet will go through a series of evolutions when the visitors arrive. The *Fame* will be on hand to tow any "cripple" into harbour after the display.

A JAPAN contemporary says:—"The editor of the *Nishi Nippon*, a newspaper of Gifu Prefecture, which has been suspended by the authorities for having printed matter calculated to disturb the public peace, has been arrested by the Gifu Correctional Court on a charge of having printed matter disrespectful of the Emperor Jimmu. 'Jimmy' only died about 2,500 years ago!"

A TELEGRAM was received in Shanghai from Tientsin on the 7th inst., stating that Mr. C. M. Encarnacion, aged 30 years, an employee of the French Bank at the latter port, had committed suicide by shooting himself. It appears that there was something wrong in the Bank's accounts for which the deceased was responsible, and he killed himself to avoid a criminal prosecution.

A STORY comes of the recovery of a picture painted over one thousand years ago (in A.D. 850) by Kanaoka, the father of Japanese pictorial art. It represents a figure about two feet high, every detail being finished with the elaborate care lavished by the old Japanese masters on their choicest works. It has been said by experts that the genuine works of Kanaoka now extant may be counted on the fingers of one hand, and that the whereabouts of each is well known.

THE expensive yearly festivity at the Canton Joss-house or Club, has since last week begun with the usual luxury, says the *Foohow Echo*. This festivity is said to be provided by the foreign hongs, comprising tea, betel, peddlers, women, house boys, and Canton tea hongs. The subscriptions are collected from each of the above stated corporations in turns, the whole business costing them something over \$15,000, and it is based upon the expectation of a prosperous year, but who is to pay for all this now? We believe the tea growers, through the generous help of foreign buyers.

Mr. Justice Wise delivered judgment on rather an unusual point in the Summary Court this morning (March 14th). On Wednesday he heard a case in which Tang Kit, contractor, sued J. A. De Souza, for \$300. Mr. W. M. Deane, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. W. M. Deane, for the defendant, and Mr. Charles Mooney, one of the plaintiff to build a house on his portion. This was done, but before Mooney had finished paying for his part he failed. Tang Kit therefore sought to recover from De Souza, alleging that the two contracts had been all along treated as one. In giving judgment his lordship found for the defendant, with costs.

MEETING OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 12th inst. There were present:—His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government (Mr. F. Fleming), the Acting Colonial Secretary (Mr. W. M. Deane), Mr. S. Broome, Surveyor-General; Mr. A. Lister, Acting Colonial Secretary; Mr. A. Lister, Acting Colonial Secretary; Mr. N. C. Mitchell-Innes, Acting Registrar-General; Messrs. P. Ryrie, C. P. Chater, J. J. Keawick, and F. MacEwen, Dr. Kai, (unofficial members) and Mr. A. Seth, Clerk of Councils.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

NOT "QUITE SUFFICIENT."

His Excellency—With reference to the minutes of the last meeting, now confirmed, I think it only right to state that I have received information from some members of the Reception Committee appointed to receive the Duke and Duchess of Connaught that the amount the Council was asked to vote—\$12,000—will not be quite sufficient to cover the expenses. I am in hopes that these will not exceed the vote by much—possible \$2,000 or \$3,000—am not in a position to mention the exact amount, because I would be only adhering to the principle I have already enunciated, that I do not think public money should be expended until it is voted. Although I regret, for some reasons, that the amount will not be limited to the sum voted, at the same time I can assure you that for the sake of a few hundred dollars this Council—indeed I may say this Colony—would not wish that any want of loyalty should be shown to one of her Majesty's sons. I know it is the desire of the Colony to give a reception to their Royal Highnesses, and I am sure, should it be necessary to ask for an additional sum, it will be granted. I do not think it would have been altogether straightforward in me to have sanctioned any further expenditure without mentioning this.

RAISING THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PAY.

The Acting Colonial Secretary laid on the table a recommendation by his Excellency that the sum of \$3,000 be added to the salary of the Attorney-General.

His Excellency—Before referring to this to the Finance Committee I may mention shortly the circumstances under which this additional vote is asked. During the course of last year certain correspondence took place between the Governor and the Secretary of State, in connection with the salary of the next Attorney-General, when a vacancy should occur. On the 25th October the Secretary of State wrote a despatch in which he proposed that the salary of any future Attorney-General should be the same as that given to that officer who has hitherto held the office. In the despatch it was stated that the salary should be \$4,400, which is the salary of the Attorney-General of the Straits Settlements. But the Attorney-General should no longer have a right to private practice, or fees for registration, etc., which should be paid into the Treasury, the average amount during last year being about \$625. It is, I think, a very doubtful question whether an Attorney-General should or should not be allowed private practice—there is a good deal to be said on both sides. With private practice he would have more opportunity of picking up local laws than otherwise, and would be brought more in contact with the community, which, in my opinion, is a good thing for any public officer. On the other hand private practice would undoubtedly take up a considerable portion of his time, and it may be that certain conclusions which it is necessary to arrive at are somewhat delayed when he has to give his time up to private practice. These points have been carefully considered by the Government before deciding as they did. The Secretary of State was of opinion that he could not get a really efficient officer unless he paid at least as much as is paid in the Straits Settlements. Perhaps it is a pity that the

Council has not been asked to vote this before, as the Attorney-General is about to arrive in a few days—possibly the end of this week, but as soon as it was brought to my knowledge that the Council had not voted the increased salary I thought it should be at once considered, more particularly as the new Attorney-General has been given to understand that he will receive the higher salary. The matter was then referred to the Finance Committee.

THE ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table recommendations for the vote of \$735, for the employment of a nuisance inspector at Kowloon during the ensuing five months, and of \$90 for a Chinese teacher for the new head-mistress of the Girls' School.—Referred.

THE INCREASED MILITARY CONTRIBUTION. His Excellency laid on the table a despatch (which will be published to-morrow) from the Secretary of State, with reference to the proposed increase of the military contribution of the Colony. He said:—"I may say at once that it will be incumbent on me, without any unnecessary delay, to propose a vote by which the military contribution of this Colony will be increased from £20,000 to £40,000 a year. But it is only fair to the members of this Council, and, indeed, towards the community generally, that there should be given to them the arguments contained in the despatch, and I shall therefore refrain from proposing the vote until a reasonable opportunity has been afforded to every member of considering—as I am sure they will consider—with every care and impartiality, the reasons which have induced Her Majesty's Government to propose the increase. I may state that several copies of the despatch have been sent by the Secretary of State; so that every member will have an opportunity of obtaining one."

THE BOKHARA ROCK REPORT. The vote to Col. Beaumont was reported by the Finance Committee as being still under consideration.

WHIT WASHING.

The bill for the naturalisation of a Bonham Strand merchant named Lam Leung Sing passed its readings after numerous amendments of spelling.

THE NEW MEMORANDUM.

The Acting Attorney-General moved the second reading of a bill to amend section 28 of the Public Health Ordinance. Its effect was to make burial in any of the cemeteries legal, it being apparently an offence previously punishable with a fine of \$100. When the Bill was passing its third reading Dr. Ho Kai informed the Council that he had written to the Sanitary Board for the jurisdiction of the Sanitary Board? It would be a great pity if it did.

The Acting Colonial Secretary assured him that it would not, owing to the fact that at present the Sanitary Board had no jurisdiction over cemeteries.

Mr. MacEwen had his doubts, and at his suggestion the third reading was deferred. The Council then adjourned until Wednesday next.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was then held, the Acting Colonial Secretary presiding. The Chairman stated that the vote to Col. Beaumont was still unsettled, his report not having yet been circulated.

The vote increasing the salary of the Attorney-General was passed without comment.

The \$735 for a nuisance inspector at Kowloon, and of \$90 for a Chinese teacher for the head-mistress of the Girls' School, were also passed.

THE INCREASED MILITARY CONTRIBUTION.

The following despatch was laid on the table of the Legislative Council on the 12th inst.:—

Downing Street, 20th January, 1890.

Sir,—Referring to previous correspondence respecting the fortifications recently erected at Hongkong and their armament, I have now the honour to address you on the subject of the additional garrison required by those fortifications and on the incidence of its cost; matters to which Her Majesty's Government have given most anxious and careful consideration.

2.—You are aware that in 1884 it was arranged that the Colony should construct the works, and that the Imperial Government should provide the armament of the proposed defences. The cost was then estimated as follows:—

Works	£55,255
Armament	37,100
The incidence being 60 per cent. Colonial, and 40 per cent. Imperial revenues.	
3.—This estimate was subsequently increased to—	
Works	£116,000
Armament	153,910
without including the submarine mining defences, which are estimated to cost—	
Works	£9,017
Submarine mining vessels and stores	45,500
so that the total cost of the defences and the division of that cost will be as follows:—	
COLONIAL	
Construction of Works—Fortifications	£116,000
IMPERIAL	
Armaments	£153,910
Submarine mining buildings	9,017
Submarine mining vessels and stores	45,500
Total	324,427

The incidence being 36 per cent. to Colonial and 64 per cent. to Imperial Revenues as against 60 per cent. to Colonial and 40 per cent. to Imperial revenues contemplated in 1884. It will be observed that in accordance with the original division of charge the Colony ought to repay the £9,017 spent on submarine mining buildings.

4.—Since 1865 Hongkong has paid a military contribution of 20,000, a year in aid of the cost of its garrison; and if you refer to paragraph 14 of the Colonial Office letter of the 25th of April, 1885, to Sir Hercules Robinson, you will see that it was then intended that the amount of £20,000 was to "be subject to any revision which the altered circumstances of the colony may require." It will also be seen from paragraph 15 of the same letter and paragraph 20 of the Duke of Newcastle's despatch, No. 115, of the 7th of September, 1863, that Her Majesty's Government, in fixing the amount at £20,000, were desirous "not to press too heavily at first on the Colonial revenues, and thus possibly to retard works of public utility."

5.—The garrison in 1864 was estimated at 1,000 of all ranks, and its annual cost at £100,000. In 1888 the garrison numbered 4,445 of all ranks (exclusive of volunteers), and its cost has risen to about £160,000 a year, while the Colonial contribution has remained at 20,000.

6.—The future garrison, including local regulars, but excluding militia and volunteers, will be approximately as follows:—

Imperial troops	2,555 of all ranks
Local regulars	493 of all ranks

The details are given in the Table A. annexed to this despatch.

7.—The cost of this garrison will be about 280,000 a year and will consequently be nearly three times as great as was the expense of the garrison in 1864 when the Colonial contribution was fixed. Her Majesty's Government, however, do not propose that the contribution should now be increased in the same proportion, and will only call upon the Colony to provide 40,000 a year for each of the three years 1890-1892, the Colony bearing in addition the cost of any militia and volunteers which it may raise, and the contribution to be paid after 1892 being subject to re-consideration during these three years.

8.—You will remember that Lord Derby's despatch, No. 213, of the 17th September 1884, enclosed with other correspondence a letter from the War Office of the 9th of September, which stated that "Lord Hartington considered that it should also be intimated to the Governor that the present arrangement as to incidence of charge only applies to the works now to be constructed and armed, and that the military contribution paid by the Colony will have to be reconsidered with reference to the increased garrison which may become necessary in consequence of these works, and to the general defence of the Colony." And in now informing you of the amount which Her Majesty's Government demand from the Colony as its contribution to the increased garrison, I desire to draw your attention to the following considerations, which have been duly weighed before that amount was determined.

9.—Hongkong is the centre of great commercial activity, and the mercantile prosperity of the port continually increases in a very remarkable degree, as is evidenced by the following figures extracted from the Blue Books:—

Ships.	Tonnage.
1863.....	Entered 1,822 894,924
	Cleared 1,835 911,957
1868.....	Entered 27,500 2,501,815
	Cleared 27,090 2,473,887
1878.....	Entered 28,779 4,359,665
	Cleared 28,377 4,340,449
1888.....	Entered 27,779 6,000,410
	Cleared 27,369 5,939,974

10.—During the same period, the increase of the public revenue has, similarly, been very marked. The figures have been:—

1861.....	\$ 576,375
1868.....	1,134,106 including fees on gambling houses, since abolished.
1878.....	947,637
1888.....	1,557,300

In other words the public revenue has nearly trebled itself in 27 years, while the shipping visiting the port has multiplied seven-fold.

The population, which was shown by the census of 1881 to be 160,402, is now estimated at not less than 215,000.

11.—It is evident that the prosperity, I may almost say the existence, of the colony, and the welfare of this large population, depend upon the continuance and security of its trade with other places. If the trade is secure, the prosperity may be expected to continue and increase, and the first instincts of self-interest would lead the community to make every effort to protect and defend their trade.

12.—The present defences of Hongkong, with their powerful armament, will suffice, in the opinion of Her Majesty's professional advisers, to afford the necessary protection against any attack likely to be made upon it, but I need scarcely remind you that another and more powerful safeguard is provided by the ships of Her Majesty's navy, whose duty would be to prevent any hostile force from approaching the place, and in whose absence alone would any attack upon it become possible. The combination of the two forms of defence will, it may be hoped, effectually secure the safety of the trade of the Colony, and of the population which lives and thrives upon it.

13.—I frankly recognise that the merchants of the Colony have always been ready to acknowledge the value of the navy to them. At the same time the changed conditions of warfare, and the sudden and rapid nature of the opening operations, have made it necessary for Hongkong, like other important Colonial ports, to be always ready to repel an attack in case of the absence of the fleet, and to have its garrison permanently at full strength, and not dependent upon the doubtful possibility of receiving reinforcements on the outbreak of war.

14.—It will be urged, as has been urged before, that the defence of Colonial ports is a matter of Imperial concern, and that the maintenance of their garrisons should be mainly borne by the taxpayers of the United Kingdom. Her Majesty's Government have, however, never admitted, and cannot now admit, this plea. Self-preservation is the first law of nature, and if the capture of Hongkong would be a serious blow to the Empire, the capture would mean ruin to many inhabitants of the Colony, and serious loss and hardship to all. Hongkong, in common with every other British possession, is directly benefited by the assistance with the rest of the Empire, and, while enjoying the benefits, cannot escape from the responsibilities, entailed by that connexion. The larger dependencies, such as the Australian Colonies, accept their responsibilities without demur, and not only provide the whole of their land defence, but contribute to the cost of the navy in order to strengthen the squadron, and obtain more complete protection for their shipping and floating trade.

15.—The estimated cost of the navy to the Imperial Exchequer is, as you will see from the Statesman's Year Book (page 247), over 13,000,000 for the year 1889, and as the population of the United Kingdom (page 256) is more than 37,000,000, these figures show that the "mother country contributes 7s. per head of its population to the naval defence of the Empire; and it might reasonably expect its dependencies to make provision for their own defence to an equal amount. Questions of jurisdiction beyond the three-mile limit, of the flag, and of discipline, stand in the way of Colonial war ships; so that the navy will always be that of the "mother country," and in dealing with the great question of the defence of the Empire it is difficult to lay down any other broad principle for dividing the cost of Colonial defence, except that of the mother country, undertaking the sea defence of the Colonies by means of her navy, and of the Colonies, so far as their means allow, respectively providing for their own land defence. But even this principle admits of extension, as, for instance, when a Colony agrees to contribute, as most of the Australian Colonies now do, to the cost of additional ships to be employed in local waters for the protection of the floating trade within those waters.

exclusive of a very large expenditure chargeable to special defence loans.

17.—If these payments are contrasted with the contribution asked from the Colony under your Government, you will see that £40,000 a year is not only a very much smaller charge per head of the population, but, as I shall proceed to show, its payment is well within the ability of the flourishing Colony of Hongkong. There are other objects on which the money might usually be spent, but self-protection is the first duty of a community, to which other matters should be postponed, and it is hardly necessary to point out that, unless it is secured, very much of the other outlay may prove to have been undertaken in vain.

18.—The revenue for 1888 amounted to \$1,557,300, and 40,000 (the contribution proposed for the next three years) taken only at 3s. a dollar amounts to about 17 per cent. of the revenue; and to about \$172 (say 3s. 6d.) per head of the population of the Colony, the whole of which is vitally interested in the security of the port. It cannot be said that such a payment is excessive, either as a charge upon the people who throng to Hongkong to seek the protection, to life and property afforded by the British flag, or in its proportion to the total public revenue of the Colony, or by comparison with the expenditure on similar purposes in the United Kingdom.

19.—I will only further point out in reference to the annual payment, what doubtless you will not have failed to notice, that the 40,000 which the Colony will pay in each of the next three years is only one-seventh of the cost of the garrison, while the remaining six-sevenths, 240,000, will still be borne by the mother country.

NEW BARRACKS.

20.—A separate correspondence is proceeding with respect to the details of the additional barracks which will be required for the increased garrison, and I do not propose to touch upon these details; but I will state the reasons which influenced Her Majesty's Government in determining that a portion of the cost of their construction should be borne by the Colony.

21.—Four different heads of expenditure were required in 1884 for putting the Colony into a proper state of defence, viz.:—1. Forts, 2. Armaments, 3. Submarine defences, 4. Barracks for additional troops. It was determined in the special agreement of that year, that the Colony should provide the works, and the Imperial Government the armaments, the estimated expenditure being:—

Works	£55,255
Armaments	37,100

22.—This estimate, as I have stated above, has, however, grown into an expenditure of 324,427, of which 200,427, or nearly two thirds, will have been borne by the Imperial Exchequer, and if Her Majesty's Government now call upon the Colony to make a fair contribution toward the new barracks, it cannot complain of unfair treatment, especially as the additional barracks are in fact a necessary part of the defences.

23.—It must be added that, if, in the course of the three years, necessary for any defence works should arise, their cost would form the subject of a separate agreement, and that it is not to be understood that the whole charge of them would be borne by the Imperial Exchequer.

24.—In the "Confidential" hope that the present arrangement, which they consider equitable and reasonable, will be readily accepted by the Colony, Her Majesty's Government request that you will lose no time in having this despatch before the Legislative Council, and in pressing forward the necessary votes by all the means in your power.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

KNUTSFORD.

Governor Sir George W. Des Voeux, K.C.M.G.

&c., &c., &c.

APPENDIX A.

In the last season, samples of which have been most favourably reported on, both in London and Holland. Mr. van Rinsum, the manager, lately visited Deli and informed me that our tobacco would compare well with any tobacco there—he is confident of obtaining not only quality but quantity this season, and I have every reason to believe that his confidence is well founded and that we shall reap a paying crop. Things are in a very different position to what they were last year, as the Estate is now well organized and the coolies have had experience in the work required of them, besides which the health of the men is satisfactory which was not the case when the Estate was newly opened. I am informed from reliable sources that from 6 to 10 piculs per field have been reaped from Estates in Borneo—one (in its second year) expects to pay a dividend of about 20 per cent, and one in Marudu Bay, (in its third year) will pay 40 per cent to its shareholders. I consider our Estate is particularly well situated as to position and soil and that we may reasonably expect to harvest 7 piculs per field. Last season was an exceptionally unfavourable one, we were late and the abnormal rains caused a flood which could not have affected us had we been in time as we are this season. During an experience in Borneo of nearly eight years I never experienced such a wet season as last year, still I consider our climate is admirable for tobacco. Personally I shall do my utmost in keeping down expenses consistent with efficiency as I am most anxious to see this company attain the success which I am confident is in store for it, and should any shareholder visit the company's property, which is but 44 days from Hongkong, I shall give every facility for inspecting the Estate. (Appendix A.)

Mr. A. C. Stokes stated that the reason the reconstruction of the Company had been considered advisable was—first, the fact that the present Company commenced operations with too small a capital. They saw the fault now, and the scheme of reconstruction was intended to remedy it. Instead of having two lakhs of dollars they ought to have begun with four, and they would to-day have been able to continue planting operations without any necessity for considering further enlargement of capital. Their position to-day was that with the final call they had sufficient to carry on over 1890 and they were nearly over the operations of 1890, and it was estimated by the directors on Mr. Abrahamson's report, that at the very outside only \$30,000 more was needed—probably considerably less, but at any rate something more than the present Company's balance. With this in front of them the Company had two alternatives—either to issue fresh shares in the present Company or to reconstruct it on the lines to which he would refer later on. The directors did not favor the first scheme, because in nearly all Companies, both in Borneo and Sumatra, the result of the working of tobacco estates showed that it was quite two years before dividends were paid, and as they were nearly a year in arrears, the second year, experience had shown that loss was about made up, but the working expenses left very little of a balance. But at the end of the third year there was a profit to be divided. If the directors had decided to issue fresh shares in the present Company it would entail a considerable period elapsing before they got any results from their investments. That would be obviated by the other scheme, one of the results of which would be, according to Mr. Abrahamson's report, that they would not only be able to pay a dividend of ten per cent, but also put the sum of at least \$40,000 to the use of the shareholders. The new Company on this year's crop. That they would admit would be a very satisfactory position. Before further referring to the scheme he would read the draft prospectus. [The prospectus set out that the capital of the new Company should be \$400,000, in \$10 shares, 20,000 (A), of which should be paid to the old Company in consideration of its estates, and 20,000 (B) should be offered for subscription \$3 on application and the rest as required. The B. shares were to be entitled for five years from the registration of the Company to a cumulative annual dividend of 7 per cent per annum on the amount paid up. The A. shares to be entitled to a dividend at the same rate afterwards, and the residuum to be equally divided according to the amounts paid up, or carried to the reserve fund, as the directors decided. The prospectus further set out at length the advantages which the Company's estates possessed.] Mr. Stokes, proceeding, held forth anticipations of 10, 20, and even 50 per cent dividends, pointing out that the results on other estates showed that he did not exaggerate. The preferential dividend clause had been inserted because some inducement should be offered to investors. They would really have been amply repaid by the increased value of the estate. It consisted of 10,000 acres, bought for \$55,000, and since then land had been sold for £2 and even £3 an acre, the upset Government price now being \$6 for uncleared ground. Their estate was capable of growing excellent tobacco, having been gradually improving for eighteen months—the most critical period for a Company to surmount.

Mr. Francis asked if the directors would take any of the new issue? The Chairman replied that he believed they all would, although very heavy holders at present. He then proposed that the Company be wound up voluntarily, and that Henry Linton, Dalrymple and Selby Darby, both of Hongkong, be, and they are hereby, appointed liquidators for the purposes of such winding up.

Mr. Judd seconded, and it was agreed to. The Chairman then proposed—That the draft agreement submitted to this meeting, and expressed to be made between this Company and its liquidators of the one part, and The New East Borneo Planting Company, Limited, of the other part, be and the same is hereby approved, and that the said liquidators be and they are hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with such new Company (when incorporated) in the terms of the said draft and to carry the same into effect.

Mr. Francis then, at the Chairman's request, said a few words. He did not quite approve of the scheme, preferring that of reconstruction, but still he would give it every support. By the courtesy of Mr. Abrahamson he had visited the Malayan estate when down in Borneo recently, and had found none apparently better managed (hear hear). He had inspected many estates, but that seemed thoroughly well organized. The land was apparently as good as any in Borneo. As he had said in his address on the subject last month, there was evidently a great future for tobacco culture in Borneo. He had also stated that the Hongkong-Borneo companies had insufficient capital, and that there were difficulties to be surmounted which investors here did not understand. As far as he could see, that Company had surmounted those initial difficulties, although perhaps some of the expense was not avoidable, and the result had been such that the new Company might rely on getting a very valuable estate, well worth the money asked for it. He would have preferred to have seen the present Company extended, rather than reconstructed, but he hoped that the existing shareholders would have the preference in the allotment.

The Chairman assured him of that, and the meeting dispersed. A confirmatory meeting will be held at an early date.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The following is the report of the Committee for the year ending 31st December, 1889, for presentation to the members at the annual meeting, to be held on Thursday, the 20th March, 1890, at 3.30 p.m.:

STATUS AND PRIVILEGES OF MEN-OF-WAR GRANTED TO SUBSIDISED FOREIGN MAIL STEAMERS AT BRITISH COLONIAL PORTS.

Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies having intimated that the Postal Conventions entered into between Great Britain and France and Germany will terminate on 30th April, 1890, the extraordinary privileges granted to Foreign Mail Steamers in British Colonial waters will in consequence also terminate on that date. It is satisfactory to be able to assume that the united action of this and other Chambers, at home and abroad, has been mainly instrumental in bringing about this desired change. (Appendix A.)

SURVEY OF THE COAST OF CHINA.

The withdrawal of H.B.M.'s surveying vessel *Rambler* and the consequent interruption to a survey, which had in part been very effectively carried out, has been the subject of some lengthy correspondence between the Chamber and the Naval Authorities. In discussing the question the Committee gave due prominence to the magnitude of the interests involved in the trade with China, and persistently urged the pressing necessity for an early resumption of the survey. These arguments were met with the somewhat unsatisfactory rejoinder "that it is not considered compatible with other Imperial interests that one of Her Majesty's vessels should be permanently stationed on the coast of China." The Committee, however, are pleased to learn that these opinions have, apparently, been subsequently modified, as they have been given to understand that a surveying vessel is already under orders for the China Station. (Appendices B. & C.)

PINNACLE ROCK FUND.

This fund, organized by the Chamber for the purpose of rewarding fishermen and others offering information as to the position and extent of illegal fishing along the coast, has been augmented by a further subscription of \$200, and with the addition of interest now stands at \$2,245. The absence of a surveying vessel has prevented its application to the purposes for which it was intended, and for the present the fund remains in abeyance. Though only one pinnacle rock was discovered through information supplied during the latter part of the *Rambler's* stay on the coast, her Captain, Commander Moore, was confident that such a system of rewards if persevered in would prove very fruitful of good results. The Hydrographic Department at Whitehall specifically marked its appreciation of the action of the Chamber by tendering thanks for what had been done. (Appendices B. & C.)

FEES TO SPECIAL JURORS.

The question of remuneration to Special Jurors has again claimed the attention of the Committee and been the subject of further correspondence with the Government. The proposal of a daily fee of \$10 in cases prolonged beyond one day, was advanced rather with the idea that it might under certain circumstances tend to deter litigants from claiming the services of Special Jurors in important cases, than that it would in all instances be an adequate remuneration to Special Jurors. His Excellency the Governor when replying to the Chamber regretted his inability to meet their views in regard to fees, but stated that he had given instructions for the preparation of an amending Ordinance to the effect that no Special Jury is to be summoned unless the Judge is satisfied the case will probably present such difficulties as to render a Special Jury desirable. (Appendix D.)

NON-FULFILMENT OF CONTRACTS.

With the view of, if possible, finding some remedy for the present unsatisfactory position of the Import trade as regards contracts, the Chamber was induced to issue to Importers the annexed circular. The existence of the evil complained of was freely admitted, but the circular evoked little or no response from Importers, nor were any remedies suggested. Under these circumstances the Chamber has not moved further in the matter. (Appendix E.)

STORM-WARNINGS.

The desirability of the earliest publication of all available information regarding the probable course of typhoons forming in the neighbourhood, or at greater distances, has been brought to the notice of the Government. The suggestion was very favourably entertained by His Excellency the Governor, and the Chamber informed that he was about taking steps to give due publicity to all obtainable information. The working of the Observatory in all its branches has since been referred to a Special Commission, at whose hands storm-warnings will no doubt receive full consideration. (Appendix F.)

REVISION OF THE CHINESE EMIGRATION ACT.

Papers drawn up by a Special Commission containing suggestions as to the revision of the Chinese Emigration Act were laid before the Chamber for the consideration of the Committee. The Committee suggested the establishment of an Emigration Department distinct from the Harbour Master's Office, and a somewhat less complicated system of supervising the shipment of emigrants, pointing out that, in their opinion, if hampered with vexatious conditions the traffic would be driven into other channels, to the detriment of the trade of Hongkong. (Appendix G.)

SUNDAY OBSERVANCE IN HONGKONG HARBOUR.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies has invited the assistance of merchants and others to take voluntary action for the purpose of stopping unnecessary labour in the harbour on Sundays. The subject has already been brought to the notice of the Chamber, but the same difficulty is still experienced by the Committee in suggesting any scheme admitting of general and equitable application calculated to bring about the ends aimed at. (Appendix H.)

DIRECT CABLE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN HONGKONG AND SINGAPORE.

The question of telegraphic communication with Singapore has again been submitted to the Chamber, and though the suggested connecting of a cable with British North Borneo has somewhat changed the aspect of affairs the Committee saw no reason to alter the opinions already expressed, which deprecated any appropriation of Colonial funds in support of a project the expense of which they considered ought to devolve on the Imperial Government. (Appendix I.)

CAPTAIN'S LIEN FOR DISBURSEMENTS IN PRIORITY TO MORTGAGEES.

A case involving the above question was brought to the notice of this Chamber by the London Chamber. The case, which is interesting in its progressive stages, was that of the steamship *Sara*, tried before Mr. Justice Butt, who held that the Master had a maritime lien on the vessel in priority to the mortgagees, and gave judgment in his favour. Mr. Justice Butt's decision was upheld by the Court of Appeal, but when the case was afterwards carried to the House of Lords the

judgment of the Court of Appeal was reversed. The difficulties certain to have arisen through this decision have subsequently been obviated by the passing of an Act on 26th August, 1889, to amend the Shipping Act of 1854. The amending Act confers upon the Master a maritime lien for disbursements properly made by him. (Appendix J.)

OPIMUM SMUGGLING ON BOARD THE RIVER STEAMERS TO CANTON.

The representatives of the two Steamer Companies have addressed the Chamber on the above subject, and the difficulties which more particularly these two Companies labour under, owing to the abuses which have arisen out of the working of the Opium Ordinance, are fully explained in the annual correspondence, and reports of trials. The facilities for smuggling it gives to those for whose benefit the Ordinance was originally framed, and the evils likely to arise from the unconditional return of all confiscated Opium to the Farmer, are also referred to. The almost unrestricted power of search which the Ordinance confers admits of general application, and carried out as it often is in an arbitrary manner by persons ill-fitted to be entrusted with such powers, is becoming a menace to the integrity of Hongkong as a perfectly free port. An amending Ordinance is in course of preparation which will doubtless deal with these vexed questions. (Appendix K.)

RATES OF POSTAGE BETWEEN ENGLAND AND THE EAST.

The matter of Postal charges has again had the attention of the Committee and has formed the subject of further correspondence with the London and other Chambers. The reduction of rates to the East and elsewhere finds a persistent warm advocate in Mr. J. H. Stanley, M.P., who has recently in Hongkong, referred to his intention of continuing the agitation on the re-opening of Parliament. (Appendix L.)

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION.

Was inaugurated in London this year, having for its primary objects the advancement of commercial interests in China, Hongkong and Japan, and as stated in the "Objects, Rules and Regulations," to represent, express, and give effect to the opinions of the British mercantile community in their political and commercial relations with the Chinese and Japanese, to promote and protect the trade, commerce, shipping, and manufactures of the United Kingdom, India, and the Colonies with and in China, Hongkong, and Japan. The Committee are hopeful that the Association will become in the future a valuable confidant, increasing as it will the opportunities of unity in action in agitating questions affecting trade relations between Great Britain and the East. (Appendix M.)

LIGHT ON THE GAP ROCK.

In reply to the question put by the Honourable A. P. MacEwen, the Chamber's representative in Council on 14th February last, "What progress is being made with the Gap Rock Light-house?" the Honourable S. Brown, Surveyor General, stated—"The preparation for the material for the tower and Light-keeper's house is progressing satisfactorily. All arrangements have been completed (including the preparation of the necessary plan, &c.) for commencing and pushing on the work at the Gap Rock as soon as the weather permits." The question of a Light-house Board was also advanced, and in reference to which His Excellency the Governor remarked—"The matter has come upon me so suddenly, and I have therefore not considered it black, considering that a few days ago he severely fractured his arm and received other injuries which would have disqualified him from the fatigue of taking any active part in an entertainment of this description. The next song was 'D-r-o-w-n' by Mr. Havers, who has a pleasing if somewhat weak tenor voice, which requires a little training; but the song took very well and the singer was loudly applauded. Then Mr. Purvis sang with effect 'Down by the River side,' and although his voice was weaker than usual, he won many golden opinions before giving place to the Irish comedian, who uttered the rustic garments of his fatherland, and 'Mr. John Malone' at the termination of which there was a chorus of applause. Then Mr. Elder, amidst loud acclamations, made his appearance and sang 'Annie Laurie' with such perfect expression that he carried the audience with him. Mr. Crampton, in the garments of a Hongkong 'ricksha-man' out for a holiday, made his appearance in true Chinese style, and fully established his reputation as a comic singer by giving 'Going to be a ricksha-man' in fine style, and on being recalled he further pleased the audience with an original addition to the song. After another interval of ten minutes the entertainment concluded with a laughable Negro farce in one act, entitled 'The Black Shoe-maker' which caused vast amusement, and sent the audience home delighted.

LICENSING SHARE BROKERS.

The granting of Licences to Brokers is suggested in the annexed letter from the Colonial Secretary, and the opinion of the Chamber asked as to the advisability of such a course. The Committee are of opinion that a system of licensing would be desirable, but do not suggest any Government control over share transactions, as they consider that legislative measure could not be made applicable to the many ramifications of general share business. Though tentative efforts towards organization have, apparently, been so far unsuccessful, the Chamber is daily probably being assisted by Brokers becoming a law unto themselves and framing regulations on lines similar to those in force on the London Stock Exchange. (Appendix N.)

ALLOTTED CONTEMPLATED CONVENTION BETWEEN THE TELEGRAPH COMPANIES AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT.

The progress of the alleged Convention has been carefully watched by the Committee during the past two years, and at no time have their efforts towards offering opposition to a compact detrimental to commercial interests generally been relaxed. The progress of the Convention, however, has been so slow, that they have long been relaxed. How far the Conference has been successful in accomplishing the ends aimed at is still a matter of uncertainty, but the Committee have quite recently learned on good authority that as yet no Convention has been actually ratified. (Appendix O.)

CORRESPONDENCE HAVING REFERENCE TO THE UNDERNOTED SUBJECTS, IS ANNEXED HERETO:—

BURMO-CHINESE FRONTIER. (Appendix P.)

CONSULAR INVOICES. (Appendix Q.)

FEE AND COMMISSIONS ON VESSELS UNDER GENERAL AVERAGE, &c. (Appendix R.)

NEW ZEALAND EXHIBITION. (Appendix S.)

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN INDIA. (Appendix T.)

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The Honourable A. P. MacEwen, whose leave of absence had been extended to November, resumed his seat at the Council, which during his absence from the Colony was occupied by Mr. B. Layton. (Appendix U.)

COMM. TTEE.

The Honourable J. Bell-Irving and Mr. N. A. Siebs retired from the Committee on their leaving the Colony, and were succeeded by the Honourable J. J. Kewick, and Mr. H. Hopkinson.

MEMBERS.

During the past year Messrs. Wotton & Deacon, and Messrs. The Borneo Company, Limited, resigned, and the names of Messrs. Stollerfoht & Hirst, and Messrs. W. Hewitt & Co., have been added to the list of Members.

FINANCE.

The Accounts have been audited by Mr. H. A. Herbert and Mr. C. F. R. Ward, Mr. J. Thurburn and Mr. E. W. Rutter having both left the Colony. The balance at credit of the Chamber on 31st December amounted to \$226,711, exclusive of \$1,250 on fixed deposit, and \$2,245 at credit of "Pinnacle Rock Fund," also on fixed deposit, both amounts being in the hands of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, and bearing interest at 5 per cent per annum.

THE ALICE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

AN APPEAL TO THE PUBLIC.

Committee Room, Alice Memorial Hospital, Hongkong, 11th March, 1890.

To the Hongkong Community.

The report for the past year of the Alice Memorial being now before the public, the Finance Committee believe that the time has come for an appeal which they have for some time been in view of making.

Built by Dr. Ho Kai, fully equipped by a ready response to an appeal to the public, and opened on the 17th of February, 1887, the Hospital has hitherto been carried on almost entirely by fund-raising by spasmodic efforts of the nature of public fêtes, &c., a method of supporting a public institution necessarily of a temporary character.

The large numbers of the suffering poor of all nationalities—availing themselves of the Hospital's benefits, and justifying its erection, the confidence in itself, and in Western medicine generally, which it seems inspiring in the minds of the Chinese population, not only in Hongkong but also in the surrounding country—for not infrequently patients come from considerable distances, and its usefulness as a training institution for native medical students, already to a considerable extent being taken advantage of, combine to inspire in the Finance Committee an assurance that they may with confidence now ask the public to put the Hospital on a firmer financial basis by the creation of annual subscription lists. They venture to hope that this appeal will meet with as hearty a response as former appeals have had.

It is found as a matter of experience that the large proportion of these most urgently requiring relief of the hospital belong to the very poorest classes, unable to pay even a fraction of the ten cents a day nominally charged for food, but paid by comparatively few; which being the case, the funds of the Hospital have justified the admission of only the most pressing cases, many who might with advantage have been received as in-patients being treated in the Out-patient department, while Hospital beds have been unoccupied, and the development of this important department of the work must largely depend on the liberality with which the funds have the privilege of sending patients to the Hospital all parts of the day and night. Admission cards may be had by application at the Hospital.

Subscriptions may be initiated to E. W. Matland, Esq., Hon. Treasurer of the Hospital, Dr. Chalmers, Dr. J. C. Thomson, or any member of the Finance Committee. Subscription sheets will also be found at Messrs. Lane, Crawford and Co., Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., and Messrs. Kruse and Co.

An appeal similar to the above is being circulated among the Chinese portion of the community.

IN THE NAME OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE,

CLEMENT PALMER,
Chairman of the Finance Committee.

E. W. MATLAND,
Hon. Treasurer of the Hospital.

JOHN CHALMERS,
General Secretary.

NETHERLANDS INDIAN NEWS.

A firm at Surabaya having need of a book-keeper, advertised the other day for one, on condition that the candidates should undergo competitive examination. It seems that, of late, it has become customary there to examine in that fashion applicants for mercantile employment. Even in engaging clerks, mere copying machines, at 25 to 50 guilders a month, a sort of examination has to be gone through. One of the candidates hardly let against the practice. The supply in such cases goes so far beyond the demand that employers resort to this method to choose the best servants in the labour market.

Last month, a prominent member of the Chinese mercantile community at Surabaya filed to the amount of four hundred thousand guilders, the assets being a mere nothing in comparison.

Acheen news offer little variety. The forts recently taken from the Achinese have been evacuated by the troops and razed to the ground, but other forts in the neighbourhood present such a formidable aspect that the Dutch are not likely to venture to take them at present.

The civil authorities on the spot have steadily to gain over the leading spirits of the Achinese war party, and fancy that the good time coming is not far off. Such is the confidence in the so-called friendly Achinese that arms and ammunition have been distributed among them without stint, though experience has shown that these supplies find their way too often into wrong hands.

The Government, it is said, intend to pass an enactment curtailing the liberty hitherto given to the Chinese to take land on lease in Netherlands India.

At Jembrang, in Bali, the people find it very hard to get on to these beasts of prey, including in the villages, and becoming a terror to their inhabitants. The latter take the precaution to go to the fields in companies, but this does not prevent several of them from being carried off at times by these prowlers.

In Java there is yet no tax on dogs, though the latter abound, and madness among them is far from uncommon, but the natives make short work of mad dogs, and soon kill them to prevent further mischief. The number of deaths from hydrophobia, there is hard to ascertain, owing to bitten persons not dying till weeks and months after the bite. In that case, the fatal case of death does not appear in the mortality returns.

The Batavia *Nieuwsblad* says that a new assessment on lands and houses there has aroused widespread dissatisfaction among the European and native community on account of too high a valuation of the rental. Land is assessed four to five times the market value. The owners take it out of their tenants, and occupy even of small plots feel keenly the enhanced revenue demand. Some of the natives have been hit so hard that they talk of moving off to Singapore and baggage and scuttling down.

At Cebu the other day a party given by a native headman, in honour of his daughter's marriage, had a tragic end. A coolie engaged by one of the guests, who at being kept too long without pay, ran amok and killed two headmen, besides wounding five other persons before he was mastered. Naturally, this threw a damper on the festive joy, and the guests made off as quickly as possible.

The financial results of the Government cinchona cultivation in Java have proved satisfactory so far. The accounts for 1888 show a profit of 23,000 guilders, and the figures for last year are expected to bring out a balance to the good amounting to 55,000 guilders.

The increasing unhealthiness of Tanjong Priok has led to the Government directing the local sanitary authorities to enquire into the reason why, and the best way to remedy the evil.

The efforts made by Mr. Zylker to float a company at Amsterdam to work the petroleum spring in Langkat have taken such a favourable turn, that he deems it success to be within his reach shortly.

Telegraphic advices have been received from Batavia, that the directors about to form the N. S. N. mail service have decided to take over all the Captains in the latter's employ, but for the present, have not yet

made up their minds what to do with engineers of foreign nationality. They go upon the principle that only Netherlands may be employed in their vessels so far as practicable. The Chinaman who murdered Mr. Munder, the cinchona planter, in the Preanger, has confessed to the crime. The *Locomotief* deplors the fact that the slow pace justice moves in that quarter will rob the coming trial of much of its deterrent effect.

The Government intends to curb reckless speculation in land. Applicants for leases will have to give security that they have adequate working capital for estate enterprise.

AMOI.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)
Amoy, 11th March, 1890.

This usually quiet port has been turned almost topsy-turvy during the past month with weddings, balls, parties, and a good many sore heads as the result.

First our genial "Commodore" was led, or rather led, to the altar of Hymen, Miss Saunders, the charming daughter of Captain Saunders of Foochow. The ceremony was first performed at the British Consulate, which I hear was tastefully decorated for the occasion, with evergreens. Then at 2 p.m. the marriage was solemnized at the Union Church, the Rev. W. Jennings, Colonial Chaplain of Hongkong, officiating. The church was beautifully decorated by the ladies. After leaving the church, the bridal pair, held on "at home," and at 4 p.m. they proceeded amid showers of rice and old shoes to the steam launch *Egypt* which conveyed them to Taitan, where they were to spend the honeymoon away from the busy haunts of man.

On Monday the 11th inst. the Members of the Amoy Club gave a Ball in the Masonic Hall to the Admiral and officers of the Russian Fleet. The Ball-room and approaches were very tastefully decorated, and dancing was kept up with vigour until the "ever silent" hours of the morning.

On the 6th inst. the Amoy Customs "Griffins" gave their maiden performance to a crowded house, the proceeds being devoted to the Amoy Chinese Hospital. At 8 o'clock the curtain rose and the opening chorus "Climbing up the golden stairs" was sung by the troupe. Mr. Bones (late Mr. Paley) then sang a comic song entitled "Love," which being treated with much spirit and humour, elicited great applause. This was followed by some very pleasing songs in fair style, the young artists (considering it was their first appearance in public) acquitted themselves very creditably. After the first interval of ten minutes Miss Howard, who is a young and talented musician, favoured the company with a grand but difficult selection from "La Traviata" which was received with befitting applause. And as the curtain rose, loud cheers greeted the renowned Saunders Auldgate (Paley) who greatly entertained the audience with an amusing stump speech—Old Mother Hubbard—which he delivered with great effect. He was succeeded by Mr. Crampton, the Irish comedian, who appeared in the full and interesting uniform of a London policeman and sang "Are you there, Moriarty?" in which he walked his best admirably, and in response to loud and continued *encore's* repeated the two last verses again and retired with flying colours. Messrs. Elder and Purvis then sang "The Lark and Watch" in which they both distinguished themselves, especially the former, who has not only a fine tenor voice but also a fair amount of black, considering that a few days ago he severely fractured his arm and received other injuries which would have disqualified him from the fatigue of taking any active part in an entertainment of this description. The next song was "D-r-o-w-n" by Mr. Havers, who has a pleasing if somewhat weak tenor voice, which requires a little training; but the song took very well and the singer was loudly applauded. Then Mr. Purvis sang with effect "Down by the River side," and although his voice was weaker than usual, he won many golden opinions before giving place to the Irish comedian, who uttered the rustic garments of his fatherland, and "Mr. John Malone" at the termination of which there was a chorus of applause. Then Mr. Elder, amidst loud acclamations, made his appearance and sang "Annie Laurie" with such perfect expression that he carried the audience with him. Mr. Crampton, in the garments of a Hongkong "ricksha-man" out for a holiday, made his appearance in true Chinese style, and fully established his reputation as a comic singer by giving "Going to be a ricksha-man" in fine style, and on being recalled he further pleased the audience with an original addition to the song. After another interval of ten minutes the entertainment concluded with a laughable Negro farce in one act, entitled "The Black Shoe-maker" which caused vast amusement, and sent the audience home delighted.

Yesterday the Russian Admiral gave an afternoon dance on board the *Admiral Nakidoff*, which was enjoyed very much by all present.

NORTH BORNEO.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Sandakan, 5th March, 1890.

Mr. Henry Walker, who entered the service of the Government nearly seven years ago, left last week for Europe on a well earned holiday. He has seen much hard work in the country and has done a considerable amount of useful exploration. A new form of the tobacco plantation is now more satisfactory as the floods and heavy rains are over. Work for the coming crop is well in hand, and most of the estates are healthy and very promising in every respect.

Reports reach us that Hongkong investors in the Borneo tobacco ventures are somewhat disappointed at the results of the 1889 crop. This is not surprising, but it would be a pity indeed if the fine estates belonging to the Hongkong companies were permitted to languish for the sake of the moderate amount of money necessary to continue active operations. It must not be forgotten that the worst time is over and that it is possible to accomplish all the capital expended in one season should the crops turn out as well as has been often the case in Sumatra.

I hear that the tobacco from many of Borneo estates has been pronounced as an extremely valuable product. If quantity can be obtained in a satisfactory manner as quality, no doubt can be entertained as to the lucrative result of the culture to those who persevere.

It is reported that Captain Rothbart, the manager of the Darvel Bay Trading Co., Ltd., has again got himself into difficulties with the authorities, owing to it is alleged, to the ill-treatment of some coolies. It is earnestly to be hoped that this report is unfounded.

Governor Creagh left for Labuan about a week ago. It is sincerely to be hoped that he will succeed in quelling Rajah Brooke in his efforts to gobble up what remains of Brunai territory. To my mind the Rajah's autocratic government and tendencies should not be extended.

It is rumoured that the tobacco from Sarawak lately sold in Europe realized but a poor price, some of it having been sold for as low as ten pence per lb.

The police courts have been rather busy of late, and amongst the noticeable cases may be mentioned several in which Dutchmen especially have behaved in a very violent style, taking the law into their own hands against natives.

The general opinion here is that it would be well if a salutary example were made of some of these rowdies. As there appears to be some doubts amongst the insurance people in China regarding the buoys in Sandakan harbour and Copuan channel, I may inform those whom it may concern that both the harbour and channel referred to are properly buoyed.

Owing to the absence of proper "gangways" at the Government wharf, Mr. Birch, of the steamer *Normanhurst*, broke his leg on the 4th inst.

We hear that a Banking Company for Borneo has been floated in London. It is rumoured that Sir Alfred Dent and Admiral Mayne are among the promoters.

Two distinct seams of coal have been found by Mr. J. Morgan, the expert coal-miner engaged by the East Borneo Syndicate to prospect the country. These seams are but 20 inches apart; one is 13 inches thick and the other 4 inches thick, and they are situated within a few hundred yards from deep water, and quite close to Sandakan town. Mr. Morgan thinks these two seams will join and form one, and that the prospects of finding a payable seam in a short time are very hopeful.

A local company has obtained an order for 15,000 sleepers for the Manila railway.

RECOLLECTIONS OF LIFE IN THE FAR EAST IN THE FIFTIES.

III.

The uneasiness caused by the assassinations that had taken place subsided somewhat when it was ascertained that they were not connected with any plot against foreigners, but were the acts of fanatics or malcontents; yet the fact that such people were roving about armed with swords, which might be drawn against one at any moment, was sufficiently disquieting, and never left altogether safe, but continued to walk about with hands upon our revolvers, and I kept mine ready for use until I embarked again on the *Alouette* but friendly steamer *Asaf* on my return to Shanghai, not altogether sorry to leave a country whose charms were greatly marred by the constant dread of sudden attack. After a trip unmarked by any event more noteworthy than the breaking down of the steamer's engines and drifting "hove to" and helpless for several days in a gale of wind, which fortunately did not reach us, we reached Shanghai in safety, only to find, however, that we had jumped from the frying pan into the fire, as the place was in a great ferment owing to the movements of the T'ai-ping rebels. After remaining comparatively quiet in Nanking since their occupation of that city some seven years previously, they had again taken the war path, this time in the direction of Shanghai, and great consternation prevailed in consequence throughout

Shipping.

STEAMERS.

FOR NAGASAKI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

THE Steamship

"EDENDALE."

Captain Humphrey, will be despatched for the above Ports, TO-MORROW, the 20th inst., at 8 A.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
ADAMSON, BELL & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 19th March, 1890. [398]

FOR SHANGHAI.

THE Steamship

"AMOI."

Captain Th. Lehmann, will be despatched for the above Port, TO-MORROW, the 20th inst., at NOON, instead of as previously notified.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
SIEMSEN & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 19th March, 1890. [447]

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR

SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO,

BOMBAY, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID,

BRINDISI, TRIESTE, AND VENICE.

Cargo at through rates to CALCUTTA, MADRAS, PERSIAN GULF, RED SEA, BLACK SEA, LEVANT, and ADRIATIC PORTS.

THE Company's Steamship

"MEDUSA."

Captain G. Mettel, will be despatched as above, TO-MORROW, the 20th inst., at NOON.

Cargo will not be received on board after 5 P.M. prior to date of sailing.

For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to
DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 18th March, 1890. [402]

THE CHINA AND MANILA STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR MANILA, VIA AMOI.

THE Company's Steamship

"ZAFIRO."

Captain Coburn, will be despatched for the above Ports, TO-MORROW, the 20th inst., at 4 P.M., instead of as previously advertised.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 19th March, 1890. [439]

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

NOTICE

STEAM TO YOKOHAMA, KOBE AND NAGASAKI.

(Passing through the INLAND SEA.)

THE Company's Steamship

"GENERAL WERDER."

Captain M. Eichel, will leave for the above Ports, on or about the 21st inst.

For further particulars, apply to
MELCHERS & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 15th March, 1890. [4]

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

NOTICE

STEAM TO SHANGHAI.

THE Company's Steamship

"PREUSSEN."

Captain C. Pohle, will leave for the above place about 24 hours after arrival with the outward German Mail.

For further particulars, apply to
MELCHERS & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 15th March, 1890. [4]

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, AND CALCUTTA.

THE Company's Steamship

"WINGSANG."

Captain St. Croix, will be despatched as above on SATURDAY, the 22nd March, at 3 P.M.

This steamer has superior first class accommodation specially constructed to meet the requirements of tropical climates.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 17th March, 1890. [442]

STEAM TO LONDON, VIA BOMBAY AND MARSEILLES.

Calling at intermediate Ports.

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship

"BOMBAY."

Captain E. Weston, will leave for the above places, at DAYLIGHT, on SATURDAY, the 22nd inst.

This vessel is disconnected from the Mail services, but has excellent accommodation for through passengers (First Saloon only) at reduced rates. Electric Light, Deck cabins, Surgeon carried, &c.

E. L. WOODIN,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 19th March, 1890. [429]

THE "GIBB" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

(Taking through Cargo for ADELAIDE, TASMANIA, and NEW ZEALAND.)

THE British Steamship

"TARTAR."

Captain Bailey, will be despatched as above, on or about the 23rd inst.

This steamer has superior Accommodation for First-class Passengers.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Managers.

Hongkong, 19th March, 1890. [393]

STEAM TO STRAITS AND BOMBAY.

(Calling at Colombo if sufficient inducement offers.)

THE P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Steamship

"THIBET."

Captain W. L. Brown, will leave for the above place, on FRIDAY, the 28th inst., at DAYLIGHT.

E. L. WOODIN,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 19th March, 1890. [451]

Shipping.

STEAMERS.

THE SCOTTISH ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW AND BANGKOK.

THE Steamship

"MONGKUT."

Captain J. Fowler, will be despatched for the above Ports, TO-MORROW, the 20th inst., at 8 A.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
YUEN FAT HONG,
Agents.

Hongkong, 17th March, 1890. [441]

THE CHINA SHIPPERS' MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR LONDON.

THE Company's Steamship

"NINGCHOW."

Wm. Dardin, Commander, will be despatched for the above Port, on or about the 30th inst.

For Freight, apply to
ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 11th March, 1890. [403]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR PORT DARWIN, QUEENSLAND PORTS, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

THE Company's Steamship

"CHINGTU."

Hunt, Commander, will be despatched as above, on SUNDAY, the 30th inst., at DAYLIGHT.

The attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by this Steamer. First Class Saloon and Cabins are situated forward of the engines. Second Class Passengers are berthed in the Poop. A Refrigerating chamber ensures the supply of fresh provisions during the entire voyage. A duly qualified Surgeon is carried.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Hongkong, 7th March, 1890. [384]

SAILING VESSELS.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

THE 3/3 L. I. American Ship

"WILLIAM H. MACY."

Amsbury, Master, will leave here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to
RUSSELL & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 12th March, 1890. [415]

Mails.

OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO JAPAN, THE UNITED STATES, MEXICO, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, AND EUROPE.

VIA
THE OVERLAND RAILWAYS,
AND
ATLANTIC AND OTHER CONNECTING STEAMERS.

THE Steamship

"GAELIC."

will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on SATURDAY, the 5th April, at 1 P.M.

Connection will be made at Yokohama with Steamers from Shanghai and Japan Ports.

All PARCEL PACKAGES should be marked to address in full; and the same will be received at the Company's Office until FIVE P.M. the day previous to sailing.

First-class Fares granted as follows:—
To San Francisco.....\$225.00
To San Francisco and return.....\$393.75
available for 6 months.....

To Liverpool.....\$325.00
To London.....\$350.00
To other European Ports at proportionate rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service, and the Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on application.

Passengers by this line have the option of proceeding Overland by the Southern Pacific and Connecting Lines, Central Pacific, Northern Pacific or Canadian Pacific Railways.

Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa) within one year will be allowed a discount of 10 per cent. This allowance does not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to Points beyond San Francisco, in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Office, addressed to the Collector of Customs, San Francisco.

For further Information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 50A, Queen's Road Central.

C. D. HARMAN,
Agent.

Hongkong, 13th March 1890.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

NOTICE

STEAM FOR

SINGAPORE, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ,

PORT SAID, BRINDISI, GENOA,

ANTWERP, BREMEN & HAMBURG

PORTS IN THE LEVANT, BLACK SEA AND BALTIC PORTS;

ALSO,

LONDON, NEW YORK, BOSTON,

BALTIMORE, NEW ORLEANS,

GALVESTON, AND SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS.

THE COMPANY'S STEAMERS WILL CALL AT SOUTHAMPTON TO LAND PASSENGERS AND LUGGAGE.

N.B.—Cargo can be taken on through Bill of Lading for the principal places in RUSSIA.

ON SUNDAY, the 13th day of April, 1890, at 10 A.M., the Company's Steamship "PREUSSEN," Captain C. Pohle, with MAILED PASSENGERS, SPECIE & CARGO, will leave this Port as above, Calling at GENOA.

Shipping Orders will be granted till Noon. Cargo will be received on Board until 4 p.m. Specie and Parcels until 3 p.m., on 12th April. (Parcels are not to be sent on Board; they must be left at the Agency's Office). Contents and Value of Packages are required.

The Steamer has splendid Accommodation and carries a Doctor and Stewardess.

For further Particulars, apply to
MELCHERS & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 15th March, 1890. [4]

Mails.

U. S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamship

"CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO."

will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on TUESDAY, the 25th March, at 1 P.M., taking Passengers and Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe.

Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports to San Francisco, and Atlantic and inland Cities of the United States via Overland Railways, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers.

First-class Fares granted as follows:—
To San Francisco.....\$225.00
To San Francisco and return.....\$393.75
available for 6 months.....\$325.00
To Liverpool.....\$350.00
To London.....\$350.00
To other European Ports at proportionate rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service, and the Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on application.

Passengers by this line have the option of proceeding Overland by the Southern Pacific and Connecting Lines, Central Pacific, Northern Pacific or Canadian Pacific Railways.

Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa) within one year will be allowed a discount of 10 per cent. This allowance does not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to Points beyond San Francisco, in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Office, addressed to the Collector of Customs, San Francisco.

For further Information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 50A, Queen's Road Central.

C. D. HARMAN,
Agent.

Hongkong, 13th March 1890.

Mails.

U. S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamship

"CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO."

will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on TUESDAY, the 25th March, at 1 P.M., taking Passengers and Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe.

Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports to San Francisco, and Atlantic and inland Cities of the United States via Overland Railways, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers.

First-class Fares granted as follows:—
To San Francisco.....\$225.00
To San Francisco and return.....\$393.75
available for 6 months.....\$325.00
To Liverpool.....\$350.00
To London.....\$350.00
To other European Ports at proportionate rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service, and the Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on application.

Passengers by this line have the option of proceeding Overland by the Southern Pacific and Connecting Lines, Central Pacific, Northern Pacific or Canadian Pacific Railways.

Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa) within one year will be allowed a discount of 10 per cent. This allowance does not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.

Freight will be received on board until 4 P.M. the day previous to sailing. Parcel Packages will be received at the Office until 5 P.M. same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to Points beyond San Francisco, in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Office in Sealed Envelopes, addressed to the Collector of Customs at San Francisco.

For further Information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company, No. 50A, Queen's Road Central.

C. D. HARMAN,
Agent.

Hongkong, 26th February 1890. [1]

STEAM FOR

SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, ADEN,

ISMALIA, PORT SAID, MALTA,

GIBRALTAR, MARSEILLES, BRINDISI, TRIESTE, VENICE, PLYMOUTH, AND LONDON;

ALSO,

BOMBAY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA AND AUSTRALIA.

N.B.—Cargo can be taken on THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULF PORTS, MARSEILLES, TRIESTE, HAMBURG, NEW YORK AND BOSTON.

SPECIE ONLY LANDED AT PLYMOUTH.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship

"PEKIN" Captain G. Harris, with Her Majesty's Mail, will be despatched from this for LONDON via BOMBAY & SUEZ CANAL, on WEDNESDAY, the 26th March, at NOON.

Cargo will be received on board until 4 P.M. Parcels and Specie (Gold) at the Office until 4 P.M., on the day before sailing.

Silk and Valuables for Europe will be transhipped at Colombo; Tea and General Cargo for London will be conveyed via Bombay without transhipment arriving one week later than by the ordinary direct route via Colombo.

For further particulars regarding FREIGHT and PASSAGE apply to the PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Office, Hongkong.

The Contents and Value of Packages are required to be declared prior to shipment.

Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Black Bills of Lading.

This Steamer takes Cargo and Passengers for Marseilles.

E. L. WOODIN,
Superintendent.

P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office,
Hongkong, 15th March, 1890. [1]

CANADIAN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

TAKING CARGO AND PASSENGERS TO JAPAN, CANADA, THE UNITED STATES AND EUROPE,

VIA

THE CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY

AND OTHER CONNECTING RAILWAY LINES & STEAMERS.

THE British Steamship

"BATAVIA."

2553 Tons Register, Captain Williamson, will be despatched for VANCOUVER, B.C., via INLAND SEA, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA, on THURSDAY, the 3rd April, at NOON.

To be followed by the S.S. "ABYSSINIA" on the 24th April and S.S. "PARTHIA" on the 15th May.

Connection will be made at Yokohama with Steamers from Shanghai and Japan Ports, and at Vancouver with Pacific Coast Steamship Company and other Steamers.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers.

First-class Fares granted as follows:—
To Vancouver and Victoria, (Mex.)\$210.00
To Montreal, New York, &c.....\$290.00
To Liverpool.....\$325.00
To London.....\$350.00
To other European Ports at proportionate rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service, and the Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on application.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to Points in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Office, addressed to Mr. D. E. BROWN, District Freight Agent, Vancouver, B.C.

Freight will be received on board until 4 P.M. on the 2nd April.

All Parcels must be sent to our Office and should be marked to address in full; and the same will be received by us until 5 P.M. the day previous to sailing.

For Information as to Passage or Freight, apply to
ADAMSON, BELL & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 6th March, 1890. [1]

Mails.

U. S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING AT YOKOHAMA, AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE U. S. Mail Steamship

"CITY OF RIO DE JANEIRO."

will be despatched for San Francisco, via Yokohama, on TUESDAY, the 25th March, at 1 P.M., taking Passengers and Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe.

Through Bills of Lading issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports to San Francisco, and Atlantic and inland Cities of the United States via Overland Railways, to Havana, Trinidad, and Demerara, and to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, by the Company's and connecting Steamers.

Through Passage Tickets granted to England, France, and Germany by all trans-Atlantic lines of Steamers.

First-class Fares granted as follows:—
To San Francisco.....\$225.00
To San Francisco and return.....\$393.75
available for 6 months.....\$325.00
To Liverpool.....\$350.00
To London.....\$350.00
To other European Ports at proportionate rates. Special reduced rates granted to Officers of the Army, Navy, Civil Service, and the Imperial Chinese Customs, to be obtained on application.

Passengers by this line have the option of proceeding Overland by the Southern Pacific and Connecting Lines, Central Pacific, Northern Pacific or Canadian Pacific Railways.

Passengers, who have paid full fare, re-embarking at San Francisco for China or Japan (or vice versa) within one year will be allowed a discount of 10 per cent. This allowance does not apply to through fares from China and Japan to Europe.

Consular Invoices to accompany Cargo destined to Points beyond San Francisco, in the United States, should be sent to the Company's Office, addressed to the Collector of Customs, San Francisco.